

"Norton Highlights"



Dr. C. F. Taylor-
Superintendent of Kansas
State Tuberculosis Hospital

Dr. Taylor was born on the south side of Chicago. September 22, 1891. His father died a short time later and the children found what work they could to help their mother make ends meet. Dr. Taylor contributed his share by selling newspapers in Chicago's tough South Side.

He was an ambitious youth and set his goal at becoming a doctor. He worked his way through the University of Chicago and Rush Medical School. His internship was served at a steel mill hospital at Gary, Indiana. Then followed a hitch in World War I as an Army doctor.

He began medical practice at Prairieburg, Iowa, and it was there that he decided to specialize in tuberculosis. He made the decision after a mistake in diagnoses of a tuberculosis case.

He joined the medical staff at the Iowa State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis at Oakdale and worked his way up to the position of assistant superintendent. He started as superintendent of the Norton Sanitarium on March 17, 1930, a hard job to follow in Dr. Kenney's footsteps. He came as a young doctor with new ideas and was foolish enough to favor the drastic step of surgery in the treatment of TB. Dr. Taylor's success as a chest surgeon was almost spectacular. He made many of his own instruments and many of the procedures he helped develop are still in use today.

Norton Daily Telegram
1955

In medical circles, Dr. C F Taylor, Superintendent, and medical director of the Kansas State Tuberculosis Sanatorium, is known as an expert on tuberculosis treatment and surgery as a sound administrator.

To his patients, he is known for his kindness and genuine sympathy for his driving personal interest in making them, well.

To many people in Norton, Doctor Taylor is known as a crack man, better than average golfer, and a pleasantly interesting friend to have. He likes people and as a result people like him.

During the 25 years that he has been Superintendent of the huge, sprawling state sanatorium, there have been numerous construction improvements made, new buildings, new facilities for patients and employees. The medical record of the hospital has proved his personal ability and his skill in training and organizing competent staff workers.

One of the principal construction jobs was the building of the 235 bed Kenney Memorial Hospital about 15 years ago. It fittingly was named in honor of the only other man who has held the superintendency, the late Doctor C S Kenney, whose served from the institutions beginning in 1914 until the arrival of Doctor Taylor in 1930.

Other improvements include the construction of a new nurse's home, the commissary, new buildings, and improvements at the sanatorium farm, the addition of a carpenter and paint shop, cottages for resident patients, and an employee's building, a Chapel, and the new Lathrop building.

Doctor Taylor has been largely responsible for making such a large-scale building program possible. He gets things done. He has a technical knowledge of what the sanatorium needs and the personal charm and magnetism that enables him to convince others of those needs.

Although he was one of the first specialists to use surgery as a means of treating tuberculosis, Doctor Taylor is a believer in treatment of the mind as well as the body. He says



Local men donated Sanatorium land

Norton Daily Telegram
May 18, 1949

The following account of how Norton County was selected as the place in which to locate the state tuberculosis sanatorium was written by Mrs. Elva Maddox, chamber of commerce secretary, and recently broadcast on the radio by Elmon Heaton, local businessman.

KANSAS STATE SANATORIUM

Our topic today is about our state tuberculosis sanatorium and the efforts of a few businessmen to get it located near Norton.

The legislature of 1911 enacted a law creating a state sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis and appropriated \$50,000 which was to be used to purchase the proper site, erect, and equip the necessary buildings, and pay the running expenses for a period of two years.

Owing to some difficulty in obtaining possession of the land, the matter was still unsettled when the 1913 legislature convened. By an act of this body the old law was repealed, and another law enacted, which further provided that the sanatorium should be located in the county where 160 acres of land best suited for its location should be donated to the state.

THE PLAN

Norton's Commercial Club, as it was called in those days, was always alert to getting anything that would help Norton grow and progress. Frank Garrity, a prominent businessman was president of the commercial club and Dr. R.D. Wesley, a promising young dentist, who is still practicing in Norton was secretary at that time.

In a membership meeting of that organization the matter of raising money to buy 160 acres of land for a state institution was freely discussed and at the close of the meeting they had \$3,000 raised. After the meeting young Dr. Wesley had an idea and

went to the home of the president, Mr. Garrity, and presented his idea. It sounded so good to him that he called a special meeting the next morning of a group of progressive citizens and told Dr. Wesley to give it to them.

The plan was to canvass the entire business district and ask the men to subscribe for an acre of land, the price not to exceed \$50 per acre. This solicitation was made, and the total 160 acres was subscribed in one day. The group also decided that they would let the state board of control choose the site and whatever they chose was theirs for the asking.

PICK SITE

On July 6, 1913, the advisory commission and the superintendent began inspecting the sites in the various towns but when they came to Norton the businessmen told them to go anywhere in Norton County and when they found a site suitable to their needs it would be donated to them. On July 28, 1913, they chose the site where our beautiful sanatorium stands today. It was through the efforts of Charles Sawyer of the First National Bank and others that this site was acquired and donated to the state of Kansas.

The location is a very pretty one, four miles east of Norton just off US 36 highway. The land is of first and second bottom and fertile, being especially adapted for raising forage crops. Prairie Dog creek winds through the place and runs just north of the main buildings. The stream is studded with elm, cottonwood, box elder and ash trees.

The main line of the Rock Island railroad and the branch of the Burlington run across the south end of the land and Highway US 36 runs parallel with the railroad. There is an abundance of water and shade, and the drainage is ideal. The altitude is 2,260 feet and there are all the essentials necessary for the treatment of tuberculosis, namely an average

altitude, cool nights, plenty of water, good drainage, maximum amount of sunshiny days and accessibility from all parts of the state.

CORNERSTONE LAID

After the 160 acres was donated to the state, the board of control purchased the eighty adjacent to the 160 making a total of 240 acres in all. Work was begun preparatory to the erection of the building in October 1913 and the laying of the corner stone for pavilion No. 1 was held June 14, 1914. Since transportation was not what it is today the Burlington railroad brought a special train here and made the run between Norton and the site throughout the day.

This pavilion was completed along with a boiler house, laundry, dining room and kitchen in September 1914 with Dr. C.S. Kenney in charge as superintendent. With sixteen beds, the little institution received its first patients on Feb. 8, 1915.

Thirty-five years have passed since that first patient was admitted and today there are 405 patients being cared for with the most modern facilities, a staff of four doctors headed by Dr. C.F. Taylor, superintendent and two interns.

PROUD OF HOSPITAL

There are 250 employees and an annual payroll of \$400,000. There are many beautiful buildings surrounded by lovely shrubs, trees, and grass. Among the new buildings is the Kenney, a memorial to Dr. C.S. Kenney, the first superintendent, who gave so much to the state in the study of and treatment of tuberculosis. This building was completed in April 1939 and dedicated on Aug. 3, 1939.

We feel proud that Norton is the home of the huge \$3,000,000 Kansas state health institution, and that the Norton Chamber of Commerce still has five members of their roster who helped to get our sanatorium located at Norton, Kansas.



USD 211 holds special school board meeting

The special meeting of the Board of Education, U.S.D. 211, was called to order at 7:45 a.m. on July 22, by Michael Terry, President, at the Alice Tweed Center, 105 E. Waverly, Norton, Kansas. Five members were present so a quorum was declared.

Members present were President Michael Terry, Vice President Deena Wentte, Jennifer Miller, Ryan Kats, and Kate Sprigg. Members absent were Jon Granberry, and Sean Kats.

Others present were: Superintendent Corey Roy, and Board Clerk Kayla Aitken.

Budget Discussion and Publication Notice

Superintendent Roy presented and explained the proposed budget. Superintendent Roy let the BOE know that we will not be exceeding the revenue neutral rate.

Motion by Deena Wentte, seconded by Kate Sprigg, to approve the publication of the proposed 2025-2026 USD

211 budget in the Norton Telegram. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session: Personnel

Motion by Deena Wentte, seconded by Kate Sprigg, to go into executive session to discuss personnel job assignments pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA. Motion carried 5-0. Superintendent Roy will remain in the meeting. The open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 8:05 a.m.

Open Meeting

The Board returned to open-meeting at 8:05 a.m.

Personnel Action

Motion by Deena Wentte, seconded by Kate Sprigg, to accept the resignation of Kayla Aitken as the Board Clerk at USD 211; and resignation of Jon Granberry as BOE Member at USD 211. Motion passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

KDOT employees celebrate service anniversaries

The Kansas Department of Transportation expresses its appreciation for employees celebrating state service anniversaries in August. KDOT is proud to acknowledge them for the long-term dedication they have provided to the state of Kansas. Listed below are the employees and their hometowns.

Those celebrating 45 years:

David Dye, Equipment Operator Specialist, Meade

Those celebrating 40 years:

Kevin Walters, Equipment Operator Specialist, Manhattan

Those celebrating 30 years:

Rick Barezinsky, Assistant Bureau Chief of Materials, Scranton

Shawn Denny, Highway Maintenance Superintendent, Garnett

Jeff Stewart, District Three Engineer, Norton

Those celebrating 25 years:

Chris Bortz, Assistant Bureau Chief, Topeka

Kerry Bramhall, Engineering Technician Senior,

Vermillion

Kelly Cook, Equipment Operator Specialist, Peabody

Klete Hackney, Maintenance Supervisor, Coldwater

Thomas Valadez, Engineering Technician Senior, Andover

Those celebrating 20 years:

Jeffrey Bagley, Equipment Operator Specialist, Hill City

Brett Carlson, Equipment Operator Specialist, Bison

Patrick Foster, Engineering Technician Senior, Kansas City

Michael Freeland, Engineering Technician Senior, Lawrence

Eric Lentz, Equipment Operator, Oskaloosa

Pamela Murray-Anderson, Senior Director of Administration, Topeka

Jason Nichols, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Eureka

Jon Sherwood, Operator Senior, Leroy