

Doctors Honored at Reception

May 31, 1984

A large crowd waited for about thirty minutes on Sunday afternoon for two of the guests of honor at a reception honoring Doctors John C. Buchanan, Jesse Blease Floyd, William S. Lyles and Charles S. McCants at the White Oak Conference Center.

Drs. Buchanan and McCants had traveled to Charlotte earlier in the day for a special family church activity, and were just a little late getting back to White Oak. The crowd didn't seem to mind, however, and applauded Dr. Roger Gaddy who reminded those present that they should be accustomed to waiting to see their physicians.

Fairfield Memorial Hospital Board Chairman E.L. Ayers pointed out that the four physicians being honored had given a total of 185 years of service to the people of Fairfield County.

Gifts were presented to each of the four men. Making the presentation to Dr. Buchanan was Taft Henry, vice-chairman of the hospital board, who said his mother had always told him that the present Dr. Buchanan and his

father delivered him. Henry said the 82-year old doctor has been in private practice in Fairfield since 1929, with the exception of a stint with the U.S. Army during World War II. Dr. Buchanan was discharged from service in 1946 with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

The practice of medicine runs in the Buchanan family; John C. Buchanans - father, son, and grandson, have practiced medicine here continuously for 145 years.

The gift to Dr. Jesse Floyd was made by E.L. Ayers, who briefly sketched the doctor's career. Dr. Floyd retired from private practice in 1980; however, he is still associated part-time with the Fairfield County Health Department.

Dr. Roger Gaddy, pointing out that both he and Dr. Lyles are avid sportsmen, presented Dr. Lyles' gift. Dr. Lyles, a Yale graduate, who received his medical schooling at the Medical University of South Carolina, was born in Portland, Maine. He

served as a lieutenant in the Navy medical corps during World War II. He has practiced in Fairfield County 28 years. Dr. Lyles is a surgeon.

Dr. Charles Spencer McCants, who has practiced medicine in Fairfield county almost as long as anyone here can remember, received his gift from Dr. Harmon Patrick, FMH chief of staff. Patrick said the 94-year old physician has always been "dedicated to excellence in the practice of medicine", and said McCants was among one of the first doctors anywhere to be certified by the Academy of Family Practitioners. Dr. McCants, who just recently retired, began a medical practice in the county in 1918.

The crowd was told that these four men contributed to the building of Fairfield Memorial Hospital, which opened in 1955, as "a model of what a small hospital should be at the time". Both McCants and Buchanan had, prior to the opening of the hospital, had clinics along with their offices.