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THE AURICLE

-1- Vol VI No2 Monday FEB 21 1955

INTERVIEW WITH FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

In recent weeks there have been circulating among students a number of rumours concerning the University Appeal and more particularly the Towns Festival.

These rumours concern the participation of non-Europeans in the Festival and the actual use to which the money raised will eventually be put. (It will be remembered by readers of the Auricle that the original aims of the Appeal as set forth in an article entitled, "The Finances of Wits", which appeared in this journal last year were primarilly to accumulate Capital for investment in order to ensure the autonomy of the University.)

In order to clarify these points, a combined S.R.C./S.M.C. delegation was appointed to interview the Festival committee. Arising out of this interview which took place on Feb 16 the following was learnt.

(1) There will be catering facilities for non-Europeans at the Festival.

(2) No discrimination will be practiced against any section of the Community, but Council's rules regarding segregation will have to be adhered to.

(3) The non-European Community have been invited to and indeed are, participating actively in the Festival.

(4) The all-important question of the use of Appeal Funds has been refeered to Council and a reply is expected shortly.

SUPPORT

YOUR

REFECTORY

THE HUDDLESTON AFFAIR

Most students will be aware that a meeting under the auspices of the S.L.A. which was to feature Father Trevor Huddleston had to be cancelled due to the refusal of the authorities to give permission for the meeting to take place. An official S.M.C. delegation approached the vice-Principle in order to discover exactly why this action was taken.

Mr. N. Schwartz, vice-President of the S.M.C. has the following to report, concerning the interview.

"In an interview with the University authorities to discuss the refusal to allow the S.L.A. meeting on the "Western Areas" to be held on University property, the following explanation was given to S.M.C officials.

In the opinion of the University authorities the holding of such a meeting on the eve of the actual removal scheme would be agitational and not informative. It was however, made clear that there was no objection to the speaker, but merely to the choice of the subject at such a time.

The S.M.C. was assured that such a step was not taken lightly.

CONT Top Next Column

NO SEX REPORT.

We regret to inform all students that the proposed Sex report on students has had to be cancelled owing to to the fact that N.U.S.A.S. Research has refused to sponser the scheme.

This is no doubt a great disappointment to many students and we cannot but feel that N.U.S.A.S. has acted in a rather "wet-blanketed" manner.

We trust that this blow will not result in a loss of interest in the subject. After all one need not always, even as Scientists, treat things in a completely academic manner.

WANTED

Cartoonists, Poets, Short-story writers and Crossword composers.

The Auricle will be grateful for all contributions.

HEPPLE ON HOLLOWAY REPORT

When the Commission of Enquiry into University Apartheid was first appointed, the Wits S.R.C. pointed to the fact that the Commission was seriously limited in its investigations by the fact that only "the practicability and financial implications of separate facilities" could be investigated. The Commission itself had to admit this fact, and undoubtedly its limited scope of reference prevented the Commission any true or accurate views of all the pros and cons of academic non-segregation. We feel convinced that with the correct broad terms of reference the Commission could have made a clear stand against segregated education.

The report of the Commission presents nothing definite. It contradicts itself on a number of occasions, for instance by pointing to the great need for University autonomy which the introduction of segregation might hamper and at the same time stating that "the state can modify this autonomy from time to time." The Commission has also had to admit the heavy costs which the introduction of apartheid in the universities would entail and this burden would undoubtedly be shifted once again by the Government onto the taxpayers.

This Committee feels that the experience of academic non-segregation has taught many generations of students at Wits, past and present, that there is no such thing as "superior" and "inferior" races.

It is our fixed and determined view that objective study can only be carried on in a sphere free from racialism, such as Wits has largely known since its inception but which the Nationalist Government, have consistently attempted to foster. The great renown and recognised standards of Wits as an academic centre are in no small way attributable to the happy mixing of different racial and cultural groups at our University which has had a lasting and beneficial effect on students.

The "concentration" of students at any centre on racial grounds is a complete denial of the fundamental rights of all human beings to a democratic education.

R. Hepple
President S.R.C.

EDITORIAL

The refusal of the University authorities to allow Father Trevor Huddleston to address the student body and their subsequent explanation to the S.M.C. delegation has a number of very unsatisfactory features about it.

Firstly there is the fact that the banning itself. Although it is perfectly true that Father Huddleston is one of the leaders of an unfashionable political viewpoint this is no reason for attempting to prevent him expressing it to the student body. If there is no platform of Free Speech within the privacy of our own University - where then.

We would certainly hate to see the University become the sounding board for political and agitationary groups. That would be completely contrary to our concept of what the functions of a University are.

Conversely, however, we believe that students have the right to hear in an atmosphere of calm and rationality, the views and beliefs of all people

The answer that was given to the S.M.C. delegation, that the Huddleston address was merely agitationary, does not seem to us to be valid. The authorities cannot possibly know what he was going to say. To suggest that it was agitationary, implies that the audience

CONT IN NEXT COLUMN

Class Reps. 1955

The following students have been elected as class representatives for 1955.

2nd year- R.Tucker.
3rd year- A.Don.
4th year- M. Lowenthal
5th year- N. Levin.
6th year-D.Gruebel-Lee.

The Editorial Board of the Auricle congratulates them on being chosen and hopes that they will not only serve the interests of their classes but pave the way to more inter-class cooperation

CONT FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN.

would be amenable to agitation. This seems to us to be an unreasonable and uncomplimentary assumption, although it is to be admitted that the circumstances were to a certain extent, rather exceptional. It remains, however, difficult to see how the holding of the meeting could in any way have influenced the course of events in the Western Areas.

Apathy Again

It would appear that while the number of new societies are increasing apace, the number of students attending the varied and interesting meetings is showing no sign at all of growing or even for that matter of maintaining last year's levels.

In this climate of apathy those students who are forming new societies, while deserving of every encouragement in their new enterprises, should ponder very carefully the possibility that the germination of the seed which they have sown may result in the starvation of those societies which have in the past just managed to exist.

But it is the student body which is the limiting factor. With adequate support all the societies could function quite adequately and even perhaps, thrive.

We therefore appeal to you. Show that you value Culture and Education.

EDUCATION & RACE — U.C.T. PRINCIPAL

A privileged audience listened attentively to one of the most courageous public speeches made for many a year when Dr. Davie, Principal of Cape Town University, delivered his Hoernle Memorial Lecture at the annual conference of the South African Institute of Race Relations in Cape Town earlier this year. His lecture was entitled "Education and Race Relations in South Africa".

Dr. Davie stressed the difficulties that confronted one when trying to speak on a subject such as this. "It was inevitable," he said, "that opinions, when expressed on questions of policy and principle could be regarded as voicing political views". He then added:

"This danger one must face or run the greater risk of being regarded as devoid of being without a personality." "However much we try to avoid acknowledging the political influences at work in the educational fields, there can be little doubt that the divergence of policies regarding the provision of university education for non-Europeans is directly linked with the differences of aims and ideals of the two groups of universities in our country - the Afrikaans medium universities of Pretoria, Stellenbosch, Bloemfontein and Potchefstroom on the one hand and those of Wits., Cape Town, Natal and Rhodes on the other".

"According to concepts in Western democracies a university aims at the pursuit, preservation and dissemination of learning, and seeks knowledge for its own sake, irrespective of its apparent usefullness. It demands of all under its wing absolute intellectual integrity. It fights at all times to secure the fullest measure of academic freedom."

"Its doors should at all times be open to anyone who can benefit by, or contribute to its teaching. Its desire for freedom from interference is primarily directed to what is taught, but is bound up also with who shall teach and who shall be taught."

"It is significant that there is complete and rigid exclusion of non-Europeans as staff or student in all four of the Afrikaans medium universities. This may be nothing more than an expression of that university autonomy which all universities seek in the management of their finances and administration."

"But when it is linked, as is the case, with a publicly pronounced, party-political, governmental policy, then it may justifiably be regarded as evidence that these four universities do not regard as essential to their well-being, the continual striving towards the ideals of universality, and also that they do not attach to their concept of academic freedom the same desiderata in respect of staff and students as do the English medium Universities".

Dr. Davie said that it was not necessary to agree or even to accept this outlook without protest. He added:

"There are too many grave issues at stake in this schism between the two sections and no ultimate good will come of keeping silent in the hope that everything will eventually work out well. To baulk the issue now by pretending to be unaware of the consequences is to invite a disaster even worse than what may follow a frank discussion".

Dr. Davie ended with a final request.

"That each University be allowed to decide on and develop its own policy in relation to the admission and academic privileges of its students".

He concluded by quoting the following:

"For it is the truth I seek after, by which I am sure that never any man was hurt; and as sure as he is hurt that continueth in any error or ignorance whatsoever".

Marcus Aurelius.

RESEARCH LEECH

The first "Research" Leech since 1947 will be appearing in April this year.

The Auricle has been informed that this Leech has a variety of interesting articles, contributed in the main by members of staff. There are no student articles.

The Auricle hopes that this lack will be remedied by the time the 2nd "Research" Leech appears towards the end of the year.

The purpose of the Leech is, after all, to stimulate student research and we consider that a Leech without student articles is only half a Leech! Articles from clinical and preclinical students, particularly, concerning their own observations are most welcome.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The revived Debating Society came out of hibernation to commence an active year's debating at its opening general meeting last Tuesday.

The programme featured two American films, between which a committee of 8 members was elected to office. John Nessbit's Passing Parade featured a film "The American State Trial", the basis of the trial being a fight for freedom of the press, and the right of public opinion and outcry against autocratic rule.

We wish the Debating Society every success on its new career.

THE WEATHER AND THE H-BOMB

(The Material for this article is taken from one written by Ritchie Calder which appeared in "The New Statesman" of January 1st, 1955)

During 1954 and the beginning of this year, the climate of the world showed, to put it mildly, the most shocking and unpredictable vagaries which even we in South Africa have very recently experienced. Last year throughout the world there was an all-time record of 600 tornadoes, hurricanes or typhoons. The greater part of Europe had bad weather: exceptionally heavy snows in Switzerland, only six wetter summers in England and Wales since 1870 and in parts of Scotland last summer's rainfall was below normal. In Asia the monsoon was irregular and in South Africa Free State farmers had drought and flood to contend with by turns.

Now, meteorologists usually corellate years of excessive wetness with sunspot maxima. The latter are years, recurring in an eleven-year cycle, in which there are the most solar whirlpools on the face of the sun which emit particles, which, when reaching the earth's atmosphere, diffuse the sun's rays and interfere with radio communication and also with the weather. However, 1954 was a year of sunspot minima. Therefore the cause of all this queer weather must be sought elsewhere. Due to the inexactness of meteorology at present causes can be no more than surmise. The journal of the Royal Meteorological Society, "Weather", says: 'We may argue that the cold wet European summer, in the first instance, was due to persistent high pressure and high temperature over Russia, but the pressure and temperature anomalies may be derivatives of some other process linked, for example, with the presence of singularities in the circumpolar wave-pattern in the flow of the 'Westerlies' (winds). Many other factors may be significant and can be pointed out, such as the presence of ice in the Atlantic this spring and summer much further South than usual and the possible reduction of solar energy reaching the earth's surface owing to interception by dust of meteoric or terrestrial origin in the high atmosphere. Here, then, is an all important problem as yet unsolved which deserves the earnest attention of meteorologists today." Note the words "terrestrial origin," for they obviously mean bomb explosions. Note also that it is debatable whether sufficient dust capable of interfering with the sun's rays could be produced by the little-boy-letting-crackers-off antics which take place from time to time at Montebello, Enimetok or in the wastes of Siberia. However, something of terrestrial origin other than bombs did, during the last century, interfere with the weather. This was the explosion of Krakatoa, a South Sea island, in 1883. The resultant volcanic ash in the atmosphere reduced solar energy by ten per-cent. Although Man has, not yet produced anything like this, the World Meteorological Organisation, a United Nations Specialised Agency recognises the possibility and has asked member States for information which may or may not implicate nuclear fission.

When an atomic weapon explodes the heat generated vaporises water and carries it in a funnel of hot currents into the upper atmosphere. One possibility is that such a funnel may act as does a pole thrust vertically into a stream - the stream of East-West currents of the atmosphere. The pole might have the effect of causing divergent currents which would cause disturbances over a wide area. One eminent authority has it that such a disturbance could alter the tracks of typhoons - and in 1954 typhoons deviated from their usually predictable track.

Another fact to be kept in mind is that of the warming up of the Arctic. The glaciers are retreating, the limits of the permafrost (continually frozen soil) are moving northwards, and in Northern Norway land is being ploughed which turns up arrow-heads of 500 A.D. - the last time the soil was exposed. This ice melt may be offsetting the influence of the Gulf Stream which is responsible for the temperate climes of the British Isles and Western Europe. At any rate, coldwater fish like the haddock are now appearing off the Cornish coast and pilchards from Western waters are migrating to the North Sea.

For these events atomic scientists cannot be blamed, but the evidence does seem to point to the definite possibility of atomic weapons having an influence.

"Situs Inversus".

APPEAL!??

Sir,

When the University Appeal was first launched, we were given to understand that the sum collected (target £1 million), would be invested and the interest used to help establish University Autonomy.

It now appears that this money is to be used on improvements to the University grounds and buildings.

I think at this stage, a clarification of the issue is urgently required.

Yours etc.
J. Silver

ARCH. AND ANTHROP. REPORT.

On Monday last, true to its position as the most active and progressive society at Medical School, Arch. and Anthrop. held its annual General Meeting. About 50 people were present, this number being far less than the normal number attending the functions of the society last year.

In his report, the retiring Chairman, Mr. Hoppenstein, pointed out that the Society had held meetings, that even towards the end of the year, had been exceedingly well attended. During the year, two excursions had been carried out, one to the banks of the Vaal river, to investigate some sites where Archaeological discoveries, particularly those of stone-age man, had been made.

The other was the September excursion to the Makapan Valley where the world-famed Cave of Hearths is. Over 40 members took part in this trip, and this number could easily have been doubled had there been sufficient transport and other facilities in the valley.

It is hoped to have similar excursions this year, but due to the popularity of the trip, applications to participate will have to be dealt with on the basis of a) paid-up membership b) time when the membership form is handed in to the committee.

A new committee was elected, under the energetic leadership of Mr. Len Myers. Other members are Vice-Chairman - E. Puler Secretary - R. Plotkin Treasurer - M. Wulfsohn Committee members - R. Hoppenstein, R. Sher, P. McCartney, A. Jaffe and J. Herson.

The Society plans to hold a meeting on the 1st of March, which will probably consist of a talk by Mr. Revel Mason.

With memories of last year's successful meetings, I think we can hope for more events of the same high standard.

WILLIAM GIBSON RESEARCH.

Miss Maud Margaret Gibson has placed in the hands of the Royal Society of Medicine a sum of money to provide a Scholarship in memory of her father, the late Mr. William Gibson of Melbourne, Australia. The Scholarship is awarded from time to time by the Society to qualified medical women who are subjects of the British Empire; and is tenable for a period of two years, but may in special circumstances be extended to a third year. The next award will be made in July 1955 to date from October 1955.

In choosing a Scholar the Society will be guided in its choice either by research work already done by her, or by research work which she contemplates. The Scholar shall be free to travel at her own will for the purpose of the research she has undertaken.

There is no competitive examination, nor need a thesis or other work for publication, or otherwise be submitted. The Society has power at any time to terminate the Grant if it has reason to be dissatisfied with the work or conduct of the Scholar.

Applications should be accompanied by a statement of professional training, degrees or diploma, and of appointments, together with a schedule of the proposed research. Applications must be accompanied by testimonials, one as to academical or professional status, and one as to general character. Envelopes containing applications, etc., should be marked "William Gibson Research Scholarship" and should be addressed to Mr. R.T. Hewitt, Secretary, Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W.1, England, and be received not later than 1st June, 1955. The approximate value of the Scholarship will be £200 per annum.

THE LIBARIAN SAYS.

The Staff of the Library take this opportunity to welcome the new students, and hope that they will all make use of the library's services. The value of these services may not be obvious at the beginning of a medical career, but, as time goes by, the more discerning students will appreciate the feeling of confidence and ability which familiarity with the literature of medicine gives to those who "read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider." (Bacon). If you think that you have no time to read, may we remind you that you have all the time there is, though it may be later than you think.

Meanwhile, students are reminded that the Library does not provide more than two copies of the latest edition of prescribed books, and that these are intended mainly for use in the library. There are, however, many books which can be used to supplement the textbooks, and it is worth while making acquaintance with these. The Staff will be glad to help students find the books they need, and to show them how to use the catalogue so that they may find books for themselves. There are students who have passed examinations without help from the library, but as Osler said, "It is astonishing with how little reading a doctor can practise medicine, but it is not astonishing how badly he may do it".

REMEMBER

PHYSIOTHERAPY

CAKE SALE

FRIDAY FEB. 23rd

at 9.45 a.m.

OUTSIDE MEDICAL SCHOOL

THE HOLLOWAY REPORT - a commentary

(The report of the Commission of Enquiry on Separate Training Facilities for Non-Europeans at Universities was recently made public. The Auricle is to publish a critical analysis on the findings of this Commission. in a series of articles, the first of these concerning the first two chapters of the report.)

The terms of reference of the Holloway Commission were "- to investigate and report on the practicability and finacial implications of providing separate training facilities for non-Europeans at Universities."

It is important to note that no mention is made of the desirability or otherwise of academic segregation as such . In fact the report persistantly draws attention to this point, the conclusions of the report being based purely on the practical and financial aspects of the problem.

In the introduction the report attempts to define the legal position of the Universities in relation to the Government and the State. It states that, "The Universities in South Africa are not Government institutions, but State-aided establishments controlled by University Councils on which certain powers have been conferred by their respective Acts."

These powers are extensive and cover all aspects of University policy.

According to legal opinion, obtained by the Universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand, neither of these institutions has the power, under the existing Acts and Statutes to refuse admission to non- European students. The provision of separate but equal facilities, however, is suggested as an alternative to the existing situation. In the opinion of the University of Cape Town this is not practicable or even possible, a conclusion which seems to be well borne out by segregated Universities in this country and in such areas as the southern States of America.

The Commission believes that by indirect intervention via the Treasury or by means of legislation, it is possible for the Government to prevent the entry of non-European students to the "Open" Universities.

Chapter Two of the Report considers various objections of a general nature to Academic Segregation. These objections relate to -

a). Autonomy of the Universities.
b). Academic Freedom.
c). Extra-curricular activities at the Universities.

AUTONOMY.

Under the first heading the point is made that while the State is capable of enforcing Segregation i.e. in maintaining the dictum, "Non imperium in imperio", - there are under a democratic system of Government, at any rate, certain spheres, (into which) in practice, it does not lightly venture to intrude.

"This applies particularly to its dealings with certain institutions through which the highest in the human spirit finds expression, as for example in the case of Religion and Science. In these spheres very strong considerations must prevail before the State will in practice interfere and take away or curtail tradionally existing rights".

The Report continues by considering the effect of the imposition of restrictions on the general welfare of the Universities. These would constitute a limitation of the Autonomy of the Universities and might open the door to interference in their Internal policies.

Furthermore these restrictions could damage the prestige enjoyed overseas by the South African Universities. The Commission, however, points out that this question is beyond the scope of its investigation.

Summing up the whole question, it states, "Restrictions must not be introduced unless they can be supported by reasons which should be regarded as overriding in the social sphere."

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Discussing academic freedom and segregation, the Commission continues that - "The progress of Science is dependent to the most profound degree on the freedom to search for the truth. Where new knowledge, new truths, may not be sought, the expression of the range of human knowledge suffers incalculable harm. On this fact is based the fundamental claim to one of the academic freedoms of the Universities, namely, the freedom to seek the truth".

The Commission accepts the concept that academic freedom implies also the freedom to communicate knowledge to others.

"The communication of their knowledge and hypotheses to one another by research workers and thinkers is of cardinal importance for their cooperation in the advancement of knowledge".

Thus prevention of the imparting of knowledge to others, represses the dissemination and application of this knowledge, so constituting an infringement of the principle of Academic freedom.

"The members of a University should therefore have the right , so long as it occurs on strictly scientific lines to think freely, to seek the truth without restraint and to give free expression to their thought and findings even if these should be erroneous".

"The only way to show that a view is wrong is to answer it by refutation

and not to stifle it by authority imposed from above."

"It follows from the foregoing that the preservation of academic freedom at the Universities as centres where the truth can be sought and imparted to others, is for them a matter of the most vital importance. Whatever trammels academic freedom hampers the Universities in the execution of their tasks". (Functions). "Restrictions should be introduced with the utmost circumspection--".

Arising out of the foregoing paragraphs the question is posed as to whether the freedom of choice and place of study and of academic training which would be involved by segregation would produce a curtailment of academic freedom.

The Commission believes that an affirmative answer to this question is only valid where students would be deprived of certain facilities which would otherwise have been available if segregation were not imposed. In other words the policy of "Separate but equal" would remove this objection to segregated Universities. The danger that "-in the application of separate University training for non-European students the facilities offered may in reality be inferior in quality and not up to the standard of substantial equality---", is stressed. Due account is taken of this and strongly influences the findings of the report.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR.

On the subject of extra-curricular activities and segregation, the report summarises the social status of non-European students at the "Open" Universities with complete accuracy and quotes at length, arguments stating that the social contacts between them and the European students is of value to both sections.

While admitting that these points of view deserve serious consideration, the Commission points out that "-there are well-known economic and social factors in the structure and functioning of the South African community which are much more comprehensive and profound and which determine the attitude of the various racial groupings towards one another".

The Commission does not however, commit itself on this point, feeling that it is beyond its terms of reference.

It does, however, admit that, although the non-Europeans are not treated on afully equal basis at the "Open" Universities such advantages as do exist - "would, of course, disappear with introduction of logically complete segregation".

The tone of the report thus far, seems to suggest that the Commission is not satisfied that the enforcement of segregation on the "Open"Universities is in their best interests. In fact, it seems at times to go close to overreaching its terms of reference in order to make its feelings quite clear. Inter alia, this perhaps emphysises the grave misgivings of the Commission on the whole matter.

L.S. Taitz
G. Gilchrist
M. Goldberg.

(To be continued.)

STOP PRESS

All students will be gratified to learn that the three non-European Medical students who were refused permission to continue their studies have now been re-accepted.

These students, who are to repeat 2nd year Medicine were originally victims of the quota system now in operation.

It would have been tragic if their careers had been ruined by one failure, where all other students were given a second chance.

It comes as a great relief to hear that the authorities have now relented and displayed that Mercy which is such an essential part of Justice.



JAZZ at the Harveian

The Jazz Society stomped off to a New Orleans beat at its inaugural meeting last Friday.

Lively Dave Lee addressed us on "What is Jazz?" He urged us to be primarily sincere about our jazz, "like what you seriously, honestly like - don't put on an act of liking something you don't".

Jazz is primarily American Negro Music. It has developed through a number of stages, some of which are:

1. New Orleans Jazz - the true beginning of jazz - this reached its perfection with Louis Armstrong.
2. Chicago Jazz - this was the first attempt by white people to play negro music.
3. New York Jazz - e.g. Benny Goodman. In this, however, jazz lost much of its happy abandon and the music became much tighter.
4. Beeb-Bop - Finally with the onset of Dizzie Gillespie and Charlie Parker, Jazz broke from the binding rhythm of Benny Goodman.

Dave Lee played records to illustrate each of these stages and finally to round off a great programme Mr. Lee played for us Oscar Petersen's "Cotton Tail". The sigh of pleasureable anticipation that greeted the Oscar Petersen record, mirrors a trend amongst Jazz listeners everywhere, and the societies next record recital, this month, will be an "OSCAR PETERSEN CONCERT".

Watch the Notice Boards!

KEEP

WATCHING!

MUSIC SOCIETY.

The Music Society according to plan has held meetings at least once a week. The attendance has definitely improved since last year although for the number of students at Medical School it is not good.

The long playing gram. is functioning well and has definitely improved the standard of performances. Students are requested to watch the trees for programme notices, as often meetings are held at short notice. Meetings will definitely be held on the following dates:

Wednesday 23rd February
Monday 28th February
Tuesday 8th March

Composer of the month.

Handel 1685 - 1759.

Born in Germany the same year as Bach. He received great opposition from his father who wished him to study law, nevertheless he was taken as a boy prodigy to Berlin where the elector was sufficiently impressed to suggest sending him to Italy to study. His father refused to let him go and he began his career as organist of a Calvanistic church in Hamburg.

Handel paid a visit to England early in his career and within the first fortnight of his visit had written "Rinaldo". This opera was an enormous success and Handel was at once in demand.

His second visit to England was made soon after the first. During this visit he wrote an opera to play off Faustria against Cuzzoni. He also wrote four magnificent coronation anthems. Then came failure. He lost all his savings by taking a theatre for an opera season of his own.

Defeat pointed the way to new fields of conquest and the Handelian oratorio came into being. He produced Serces ("Famous Largo" and all) and in three months the oratorios Saul and Israel in Egypt." The latter is a tremendous work containing the dramatic Hailstone Chorus and the gentle "He shall lead them forth" that comes after it.

The coming of the winter brought the "great frost" and the theatres closed down. This defeat brought Handel's greatest work into being, namely "Messiah". This was written by some miracle in twenty-three days and was in England a failure but better appreciated in Ireland.

The rising of the Young Pretender gave him his chance and Handel wrote Judas Maccabeus. Handel had set up oratorio against opera and succeeded.

The Spanish War finished, he composed the "Fireworks Music" for the celebrations. This orchestral piece is scored for fifty-six wind instruments including the "abominable serpent" that Berlioz so disliked.

The came ill health and the dreadful blow of blindness. His audiences heartbroken wept when the tenor sang the air from "Samson".

" Total Eclipse! No sun,
no moon!
All dark amid the blaze
of noon!"

He was conducting a performance of the Messiah, the day the collapse came that sent him to bed. A week later he was dead - so ending the career of a great master.

Rossini 1792 - 1868

Born in Pesaro he was the son of the Municipal trumpeter. He was in youth well-known as a boy singer and viola player. Rossini's first opera "La Cambiale di Matrimonio" was a success.

The work which really established him as a composer was "Tancredi" a serious opera based on Voltaire's tragedy.

After a short unhappy period in Naples he went to Rome where he composed "The Barber of Seville". The first performance of the work in February 1816 was not a success and Rossini was discouraged. The work however was soon established as a popular favourite.

During the next 5 years he wrote many operas, culminating with his masterpiece "William Tell". This was his last major work, a fact which is remarkable considering that he was only 37 when he wrote it.

He retired to Passy in November 1868 where he died after a comparatively short illness. Nineteen years later his body was removed to the Church of Santa Croie at Florence, the Westminister Abbey of Italy.

The Auricle Congratulates.

The Auricle is pleased to record some important happy events which occurred recently and during the lang vacation.

Firstly are the marriages of two couples well known to all of us at Medical School. Barbara Stern and Basil Cooper, both of 5th year, were joined in wedlock last December at a ceremony in Barbara's home town of Schweizer Reinecke. Joan Buchanan ("Buck") last year's holder of the 4th year Westdene Scholarship and A.M.S.T.F. stalwart was married to Dr. Reginald Kitchin in Durban during the middle of last month. Reg, more commonly known as "Stonewall Kitchin" qualified in '53. Both are now living at Cottesloe. It is the first case we know of in which a student has brought her husband to live at Cott.

To the aforementioned above the Auricle tenders its wishes for a most successful and happy future together.

Some days ago, the wife of Jack Seeliger (3rd year) gave birth to a boy. Heartiest congratulations to Jack and his wife.

Sam, the Surgical Dresser

The surgeon scrubbed long at the washbowl
(For he by the session were paid)
Then spoke very humble to Sister,
Of whom every man were afraid
--All excepting one dresser, his Chief's right-hand man,
A lad by the name of Sam Small;
And he and the Sister were both daggers drawn,
They thow't nowt of each other at all.
Now as Sister leans over a needle to grab
She happens to brush against Sam,
It knocks the retractor clean out of his hand,
Which falls to the ground with a slam.

"Pick it oop"says Sister, abrupt-like but cool,
But Sam with a shake of his head,
Says "Seeing as tha' knocked it out of me hand,
P'raps tha'll pick the thing oop instead".

The Staff-nurse goes off and says she'll come back,
When squabbling had come to a decision.
The Sister takes mask off and lights up a fag.
The Chief weeps into his incision.
"Sam, Sam" says Chief coaxingly,
"Come on now lad be good and chuck it"
But Sam says, "She knocked it doon, and she picks it oop,
Or it stays where it is-next to bucket."

At the sound of high words the Anaesthetist woke,
And sought for the cause of the trouble,
For all other students and nurses and pros.,
Were full of excitement and bubble.
"Come stop all this nonsense and do what tha's told"
The Anaesthetist says with a roar.
But Sam says, "She knocked it doon and she picks it oop,
Or it stays where t'is-on t'floor.

Now little Nurse Ramsbottom were just passing through
When these stubborn words she did hear,
She trips right across and speaks a few words
Into Sam's external ear.
"Sam, Sam", she says very soft
"Come on lad now just to please me,
Sam, Sam, come pick it oop now-
or I'll no come to pictures with thee".
And Sam goes deep red-he dares not resist,
And feeling round underneath table,
He picks up retractors from where they had fell,
And retracts as best as he is able.

So the op. soon were done,
And the Chief were that pleased,
As the cheering and clapping rose high,
He goes to the sluice and he picks out for Sam,
A gall-stone to wear in his tie.

Reprinted from the Lancet.

Film Society

The formation of the Film Society marks yet another milestone on the road leading to the elimination of student apathy. With an almost unlimited scope, this Society aims at fostering student interest in the art of presentation and appreciation of films of all varieties. The Society intends also to show films on medical and general scientific subjects and will work in co-operation with the established Cultural societies. No doubt this new Society will find a ready place on the student campus.

The Society have promised an interesting and varied programme for the year - so just watch the notice boards!

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club is now in full swing. Chess games are played every Tuesday and Thursday, during the lunch hour in the Physiology Lecture Room. Everyone at Medical School is welcome to our meetings, including the staff and individuals who wish to learn to play the king of games. We are exceedingly glad to see that the fairer sex is showing an interest in the game. Perhaps in the very near future we will have female influence in our Chess teams, as was the case some years ago.

This year the University Chess Team will be playing in the recently formed chess league. In addition to league matches, matches will be arranged against other chess clubs, including Pretoria University and Johannesburg Schools.

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551 Illustrations, Incl. 27 Coloured Plates – Price 91/6d.

This volume makes a welcome re-appearance 20 years after publication of the fourth edition. The new editors have had complete freedom of action in revision and much change is apparent throughout. Many new illustrations are incorporated.

The scope of this classic work remains comprehensive, for the book is designed to meet the requirements of students and practitioners, especially those seeking membership of the R.C.O.G. It covers both the pathological and clinical aspects of the subject, including operative technique, and is sufficiently detailed to be used for reference.

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Anatomy and Development of the Female Genital Organs – Physiology Methods of Examination – Disorders of Development – Disorders of Function – Infections of the Female Pelvic Organs – Diseases of the Vulva and Perineum – Diseases of the Vagina – Diseases of the Uterus – Endometrial Hyperplasia: Uterine Polypi – Fibromyomata of the Uterus – Endometriosis – Carcinoma of the Uterus (Cancer of the Cervix and Corpus Uteri) – Chorionepithelioma – Sarcoma of the Uterus – Injuries to the Uterus – Inversion of the Uterus – Displacements of the Uterus – Prolapse of Pelvic Organs – Tubal Cysts and Cysts of the Broad Ligament – Inflammation of the Fallopian Tube – Tumours of the Ovary – Gynaecological Diagnosis and Treatment – General Considerations on the Technique of Operations – Abdominal Operations – Vaginal and Vulval Operations – After-treatment.

* * *

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MEDICAL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Medical and Dental students and graduates, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Radiographers who can play orchestral instruments are cordially invited.

First Meeting and auditions THIS THURSDAY (24th FEBRUARY) at 5 p.m. in the PHYSIOTHERAPY HUT (opposite the Fort in Ameshoff Street).

PLEASE BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT

MEDICINE IN BRAZIL

Brazil is a country of amazing contrasts. It is much in evidence in that side by side you have the most up-to-date scientific progress and also very lax and inadequate sanitary precautions. There are eleven Medical Schools in Brazil of which not more than a few could qualify under the standards imposed by our Medical Association. Internship is almost unknown except in a small proportion of the very largest hospitals.

Schools of nursing are only just starting to be inaugurated; in many cases the family moves in with the patient to take care of his nursing.

Brazil's population is 40 million and 80% of these people are illiterate. It is this section of the population which is menaced by Tuberculosis. Spitting is so common that all the hospitals have spitting basins in the halls. Tuberculosis of the bones, joints and spine is very frequent. To make the position even worse the institutions and funds are most inadequate and the patients are moved out of hospital before they have been completely cured.

The life expectancy for the population is under 50 years. The people moreover regard the hospitals in a most unfavourable light and education of the public in Medical matters is urgently required. Post mortems are practically never performed.

The Government is largely to blame for the poor standard of hospitalization as every evil of beaurocracy is indulged in. The total number of doctors in Brazil is under twenty-thousand. There is one doctor to every three thousand people. Medical journals are very numerous and are supported by advertisements over which there is little or no restriction.

Quick cures for syphilis and similar ailments are "plugged" over the radio. Vast areas of Brazil are menaced by insect vectors. It is most distressing to note that sewage disposal and similar public health projects are economically impossible at the moment.

What is being done? The office of Inter-American Affairs is now making concentrated efforts to raise the standard of hygiene in Brazil and for this work there can only be a hope that it will extend to the maximum possible degree.

Why We Fail!

Failure of a student to complete his Medical course once he has entered Medical School is wasteful and unfortunate.

This problem with all its psychiatric aspects has been analysed. The investigations were carried out on 140 freshers. Of the 140, 6 were dropped because of academic failure, 10 fell away due to health and money problems.

There are three factors of prime importance in becoming a successful medical student.

1) Psychologic factors, which involves a minimum intelligence quotient of 130 on the Zinet scheme

2) A personality structure which enables the candidate to withstand stresses associated with medical work. A relative freedom from environmental stresses which lower efficiency.

3) The most important factor is one of motivation. A strong desire and interest in medicine is paramount for success at school and thereafter in the service of the student's fellow man.

SUPPORT

RAG!!!

Tennis

The men's first tennis team have had a fair season and at the time of writing are placed about halfway up in their league. This team is captained by Neville Katzen (a fifth year) and also includes Goldberg (2nd year Dentistry). By the end of the season we feel quite sure that they will have succeeded in creeping up a few places on the league log.

The second team have had a remarkably good season, and can boast of being way ahead of their nearest rivals. This fact opens up the strong possibility of this team gaining promotion next year. This will mean that Wits amy be represented by two teams in the first division next year. So buckle down to it chaps and let's see you playing first league next year!

Outstanding in this team have been Raftopulos (5th year), Duckworth (4th year) and Bulbring (2nd year Dentistry).

The men have also entered a third team for league matches and they are also, I believe, doing remarkably well. It is refreshing to see so much enthusiasm in our tennis club, for until very recently, interest in the clubs outside of Rugby and Cricket has been very limited.

The women's team were very badly hit at the end of last year by the loss of Solveigh Glietenberg and Veronica Myburgh, and as a result have had a somewhat poor season. After many team building problems a really promising team is now emerging. This team of young girls have lots of potential and need only encouragement and advice (from one of the men, perhaps?) to enable them to help score a double at this years inter-varsity.

Medical School is represented by Evelyn Puler (2nd year P.T.), Helen Bax (also 2nd year), Arlene Goldman (4th year), and Pat Emmanuel (1st year P.T.).

We wish Wits players in the National Championships good luck.

"MEDICS" IN SPORT

Congratulations to Lennie Seimon (6th Year) on again gaining selection for the Transvaal Currie Cup water polo team. Lennie has but to maintain his present form and he is sure to go to Melbourne next year, as the Springbok centre-forward. Other ex-medicals in the Transvaal side are Doctors Aaron and Cohen.

Congratulations as well to Jennifer Krohn, also in her final year, for making the Transvaal diving team once again. In the recent Transvaal diving championships, she gained third place which is a poor reflection of the fine form she showed in training. One feels certain that in the National championships at the end of the month Jennifer is going to go at least two places better.

To Gerald Gilchrist (4th year) go our best wishes for a successful tenure of office - he is this year's Medical All Sports Chairman. One hopes that under his guidance the stasis in interyear sport will be eliminated.

SWIMMING

The Wits swimming club continues to maintain its high standard of recent years and medicals, dentals and therapists, as usual, make a large contribution.

The annual Intervarsity swimming championships were held at Stellenbosch during the December of 1954. Our University maintained its monopoly by winning for the 21st year in succession! Surely an incredible record. The water polo players were runners-up, losing to U.C.T. in the final by 2 - 1. Colin Benjamin (2nd year) gained fourth place in the final of the backstroke 100 yards. He is also Club Captain and holder of the Wits record for this event at 67.6 seconds. Froman (3rd year) came fifth in the Intervarsity 100 yards freestyle event and was runner up to Boyer in the Wits 100 yards freestyle championship. Miss Barbara Todd, a 2nd year Physiotherapist, was second to Marion Kruger in the Wits women's breaststroke final.

In the Johannesburg swimming league Wits at present occupy third place.

The water polo side which travelled to Stellenbosch was composed of Krawitz, Meintjies, Stott, Snyder, Katzenellenbogen, Abrams, Mutch, Hacker and goalkeeper Imo Bock. The first three mentioned were selected for the combined universities team while Snyder was a reserve. Bock was also the winner of the Intervarsity breaststroke. John Meintjies thus scored a notable double, or rather a treble in 1954. This high jumping lineout forward gained selection for the Combined Transvaal universities Rugby side during last winter and was also awarded a full Blue for Rugby. Besides his Rugby and polo prowess Johnny also generally wins at least a place in the 66 2/3 yards freestyle event at league meetings. Robert Bull, formerly of Singapore, besides collecting a string of firsts at the end of his B.Sc 1st year, also came 3rd in the final of the Transvaal 220 yards freestyle championship and so gained a place in the Transvaal team for the South African championships.

Over the weekend before last, the University swimming club were entertained in Lourenco Marques by the Groupo Desportivo. Two matches against the latter were held, both resulting in Wits victories. Male swimmers broke numerous records: Bryer the 100 metres crawl (with Froman second), Benjamin the 100 metres backstroke, and Bock the 100 metre breaststroke. The women, on the other hand, failed to win a single event. Jennie Krohn, the Club vice-Chairman, gave an exhibition of diving.

Our Future Articles

The Auricle sports staff plans two series of articles which, it is hoped, will commence in the near future.

The first requires the co-operation of "World Sports" magazine and is on "Doctors in Sport." Due to the mesomorphic character of most medical students and therefore doctors, this is a very fertile field. In the field of team games the London Hospitals spring readily to mind. Their Rugby fame almost equals their academic fame and an ability at sport is a sine qua non for entry to some of them. Readers who saw the film "Doctor in the House" will see the truth of these remarks. In the individual sphere athletes like Bannister and Jack Lovelak are famous. The latter, a New Zealander killed during World War II, won the Berlin Olympic 1500 metres in 1936 and was a holder of the World mile record. Arthur Wint, of Trinidad, was a former Olympic 400 metres champion and holder of the World quarter mile record.

The second series will deal with less wellknown sports such as the Basque national game of Pelota, and Gaelic football, which has a large following in Eire.

The Sports Editor,
Auricle.

Sir,

I would like to suggest, through the medium of your column, that a Snooker and Billiard table be installed in the Men's Common Room.

I realise that this is a costly business, but I feel sure that if the student body were appealed to, the required money could be raised. The subsequent cost of upkeep could be met by levying a yearly subscription from members.

I wonder how other students feel about this ?

Yours etc
Snookered