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Students` Medical Council

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RAG ARGUS

VOL. 5 No. 11 14TH MAY, 1954.

RAG HITS WITS.

A SURVEY BY CHAIRMAN SYD KATZ.

All arrangements for Rag Day have been completed. The Committee have not spared any effort to make Rag the success it deserves to be. It is now up to the students to do their share.

CAPE TOWN RAISED £20,328 this year and the Rag Committee feel that with every student taking part we can quite easily exceed this figure. Here is how you can help.

Wits Wits

On Rag Day there will be a depot for Wits Wits on the Town Hall Steps. Come along and take your copies to sell and thus make sure that we sell out completely.

Competition

At the same depot as Wits Wits there will be competition tickets available.

With regard to Wits Wits and Competition Tickets, Medical students have been very lax. There is still time for Medicals to redeem themselves, by coming along on Saturday, Rag Day, and assisting our beneficiaries.

Collection 14 Points About Collecting

1. There will be two collections, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.
2. The afternoon collection will be a house-to-house one.
3. Collectors will be taken out to the various suburbs by truck leaving the Union Grounds at 1 o'clock.
4. Collection boxes will be handed out at Rag Office and outside the S.M.C. Office as from 10 o'clock.
5. Boxes must be returned to the Jewish Guild, von Brandis Street.
6. There will be a depot at the Union Grounds before and after the procession where full boxes can be handed in.
7. A MOTOR-CAR WILL BE IN THE PROCESSION AND STUDENTS MUST HAND IN ALL BROKEN BOXES TO THIS CAR IMMEDIATELY.
8. PINK FLAG TICKETS WILL BE USED IN THE MORNING till 11 a.m. AND BLUE TICKETS FOR THE AFTERNOON.

See that people are wearing both flag tickets.

9. Before coming into town, collect in your suburbs at Bus Stops and Bus Termini, etc.
10. In town, collect in shops and blocks of offices.
11. DON'T WAIT FOR PEOPLE TO COME UP TO YOU AND PUT MONEY IN YOUR BOXES. COLLECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT USING PHYSICAL VIOLENCE.
12. After the procession come to the City Hall Steps and take part in the Fancy Dress Parade.

Prizes 1st prize £3. 3. 0.
2nd prize £1. 1. 0.

13. All students who in the opinion of Rag Committee are improperly dressed will NOT be allowed to take part in the Rag Day activities.
14. Students will be issued with a certificate authorising them to collect.

Procession

1. The Committee will inspect all floats on the night before Rag.
2. Float personnel will be allocated certain corners in their areas to collect on. This collection will start at 6.30 a.m.
3. At this early morning collection floats must be so parked as not to obstruct traffic.
4. All floats must be at the Union Grounds on Rag Day at 8.30 a.m. where judging for the best STUDENT-BUILT FLOAT will take place.
5. FLOATS AND THEIR PERSONNEL WILL BE ALLOCATED AREAS IN VARIOUS SUBURBS IN THE AFTERNOON TO COLLECT.

American Auction

In conjunction with the Judging of the best costume on the City Hall Steps there will be an American Auction of numerous articles including a motor car, radiogram, electric stove, etc.

From the above programme, it is clear that it is within our power to make this rag the Epic of the Century. For once let us exceed our immediate object - let us raise £25,000

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EDITORIAL OPINION.

A SLUM IN OUR MIDST.

The present state of the Men's Common Room is an eyesore to behold. There is no attempt at tidyness, the atmosphere is not congenial to good relationship and the furniture is literally in tatters - indeed one can go as far as to state that there is not one chair to be found that does not bear some scars of battle. Here a gaping hole in an armrest, there a huge bite off the leg.

The whole appearance of the room suggests some sharply malignant condition.

We must, however, assume that the condition of the furniture can be directly attributed to the slovenly habits of the people that frequent the Common Room - the University Medical Student.

True, there is an obvious scapegoat in the non-European Night School students, but we can immediately rule this out, for our personal experience of them and their habits, leads us to state that a more refined, a more polite and considerate lot would be difficult to imagine.

Thus we are forced to the conclusion that with the advent of the new card plague which at the present infests most of our male medical students, and the associated raucous saloon-like din which is associated with it, there has come a simultaneous depreciation of morals, personal pride and cleanliness among this group.

Our Men's Common Room is in a state of disrepute and must be a source of discomfort and is certainly no attraction to visitors. In short, it is little short of a slum in our midst. Would not every medical student shudder at the thought of being judged on his Common Room - which is little more than a slum and a gambling den.

What is the solution?
After all, medical students can no longer be labelled in the same category as the boys in the 5th Form with their dirty digs. The unkept state can in some measure at least, be attributed to the persistence of card playing despite an official order from the S.M.C. to the contrary.

WHAT HAVE MR. MONK AND COMPANY DONE TO INFORCE THIS ORDER WHICH IS DAILY BEING FLOUTED BEFORE THEIR VERY EYES.

Next, we feel that some new furniture be installed, as neat clean chairs and settees are an essential before any overall improvement can be affected.

One has only to look at the beautifully kept Women's Common Room to realise what a difference "the feminine touch" makes to a room.

We have attempted to investigate why this idea has not been brought into practice before - but the only answer one can get is that "its a University tradition" that the Common Rooms should be for the seperate sexes.

If this is true, then there is still no reason why this Victorian tradition should not go by the board.

Let our S.M.C. brethren investigate all these possibilities and do something practical to remove this SLUM IN OUR MIDST.

REGISTERS.

It is with no little trepidation - but still with a very firm resolve - that the Auricle again broaches the very vexed subject of registers. It is our conviction that the tradition and ritual of taking register should be abandoned. We feel that the sincere Medical student (and need we doubt that most are sincere) realizes at the beginning of his course, in 2nd year if not in 1st, that all of the subjects in the course are of vital importance to his future career, and appreciates that lack of knowledge in them will be to his own disadvantage. Hence, why the necessity for painstaking recording of his attendance at lectures or practicals?

Furthermore the clinical student entrusted with clerking and similar responsible duties in the wards is surely in a position to judge which lectures he wants to attend, and which not. And, should his judgement prove faulty, and should there be a yawning gap in his knowledge which missed lectures could have filled, why then, there is the yearly examination to trip him up, and as he willy-nillyrrepeats the year he will be given a chance to ponder his mistakes.

Let us add, however, that it is our experience that students WANT TO LEARN - and any lecturer who promises to provide fresh and interesting material will always be assured of a packed and responsive audience.

Indeed, the whole system whereby one oft hears repeated "Oh, I must go to the lecture, Dr. X takes a register" and lo and behold as the lecture proceeds there is passed around the great Magna Charta itself, which is solemnly signed by all present - the whole system we say, smacks of the ridiculous.

Let the University Authorities treat us like adults, and we will repay their trust.

WHAT EVERY GIRL WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT DANNY KAYE.

STARTLING DISCLOSURES BY MISS ROBBIE BRUEKNER.

(Protected by the Atomic Secrets Act)

We sent out our special underground reporter ("dead-eyes" Dongas) to uncover certain aspects of the psychosomatic neuradynamia of Danny Kaye--news for which the whole feminine species (sub-species: Medicus) has been eagerly waiting.

He put certain highly penetrating questions to Robbie--the only Medica Embryogenica know officially (about 2000 eyewitnesses, and confirmed through otherwise unreliable cocktail circles) to have had prolonged osculatory continguity (Standard Hollywood kissing procedure) with Danny Kaye.

The stage was set. She was ruled into the questioning room. "Dead-eyes" donned his mask of inscrutibility (supplied on very reasonable terms by Nordene Products). With gloved hand he snapped on a cunningly concealed battery of search-lights.

Momentarily he changed into a mask of psycho-analytic sauvity (readily adaptable models available over a wide price range). "Can it be true" he soothed, "that Danny has a poorly-camouflaged carotid thrill on the left side?"

She faltered, searching his eyes for the hidden significance of this penetrating question, but immediately he snapped on the mask of inscrutibility. "Well there was a subdued vibration radiating infrajugally across the left cheek", she conceded.

His eyes were pools of mystery. Deliberately, with sympathomimetic finesse, he reduced his pupillary aperture to stop f.8, screening off from her seeking eyes the posterior chamber. "Could there", he droned, in supra-segmentally controlled hypnotic nuances, "be any substance in the suggestion of a systolic murmur in the Kaye substernum?"

She shrank from the awkward question. "I cannot commit mysolf whothe r it was systolic or extrasystolic", she diffidently replied.

"Dead-eyes" sprang to his feet and stunned her with an emphysematous whoop. "Could there," he roared, "be any connection between this and his prominent chaemaecephalia? Could this not have a bearing on his paranoic neurasthenia?"

At this moment security officers burst on the scene and demanded yellow-fever certificates.

WITS' RIGHTS AS A UNIVERSITY IMPERILLED

The crisis which we are now facing is nothing new in the history of universities. To understand it fully one must examine it first in the context of current South African politics and secondly in the broader field of world history.

The fate which seems about to overtake us has its parallel in countries all over the world, where the doctrine of totalitarianism appears likely to triumph.

On times innumerable, attempts have been made to deprive the universities of their freedom on a number of pretexts. Among the reasons given for this attempted suppression are liberalism, communism, fascism, capitalism, nationalism, unnationalism and internationalism.

In all cases, however, the only real crime which the universities committed was to allow the students to have political and sociological views at variance with the ruling dogma of the land and to express these views. It was not that the universities themselves expressed any viewpoint, but that the students were allowed to.

The formula for the attack is all too familiar.

The first step is to apply, or to threaten to apply, economic sanctions, by the removal of subsidies and scholarships; and to make sabre-rattling speeches on every occasion; and to encourage those students who support them to embark on a nihilistic policy, in an attempt to render student action or protest impotent.

Once this has been achieved, the next step is left mainly in the hands of the University. This happens particularly when the Government is not too certain of its position. If it were, it would take action immediately to bring higher education under complete state control.

Usually, however, a far more insidious and subtle method is employed. Working on the maxim that the best allies are usually found in the enemy camp, they allow the University to dig its own grave. They keep the process going by administering little prods and stabs at the right psychological moments.

This, briefly, is the stage which we have now reached. Using academic non-segregation as their pretext, together with a large measure of public support, they have succeeded in driving a deep wedge into the ranks of the students. The campaign has been commanded by a few Nationalistically minded students. These people have very cleverly succeeded in clouding over, not only the main issue - University Freedom - but also the pretext - Academic Non-Segregation. The whole attack has been turned on the so-called "Extremists".

It must be admitted that a small section of this group consists of a number of people of extreme left-wing convictions. The fact has been exploited to the full among the so-called "Moderates" on every possible occasion. Among the more recent examples of this are:

(1) The S.A.M.S.U. fracas.
(2) The Great Hall affair.

a motion whose rejection would have ended any say the student have in their own affairs, was brought before the student body. It was nearly thrown out.

In-so-far as the students are concerned, the campaign can thus be seen to have succeeded admirably. What of the University Authorities?

Here, too, one must admit that the victory lies on the side of the enemy. In spite of a Senate motion, strongly reaffirming the principle of academic non-segregation, the situation is most serious.

The pretext, academic non-segregation, has simply been brushed aside and the real target, student freedom, has been the subject of a frontal attack. The Principal acting with the University Council, has informed the S.R.C. in no uncertain terms, that he is not in the least concerned with their views and that he is fact firmly opposed to students taking a part in their own affairs at all.

Since the Council is the policy making body of the University, it seems a matter of time before student action will be thwarted, student opinion ignored, and student protest muzzled.

What can we, the students, do to ward off this disaster?

It seems to me that any attempt at compromise of our principle or with the Authorities is now out of the question, the first because sacrifice of principle for expediency leads inevitably to a betrayal of our values. The second because the Authorities have shown no inclination to compromise with us.

A good example of this is seen in the case of the Great Hall.

Last year, a compromise was reached on the subject of the seating arrangements at student functions open to the public. It was a very good compromise in that it appeared to satisfy most people.

However, this year, emboldened by what it regarded as a sign of student weakness, Council has seen fit to reject the compromise and institute a rigid system of segregation.

Any further attempts at compromise can only lead now to a sacrifice of principle.

Once that occurs, our position will be so undermined as to make it untenable. An irreparable breach will have been forced in our defences and they would be opened completely to the extinction of student liberty.

L.S. TAITZ.

SOCIALISM AND BR. UNIVERSITIES

The young person without means has probably more chance of getting a University education in England than anywhere else in the world, said Sir Alexander Carr-Saunders, Director of the London School of Economics at a lecture given recently at Milner Park.

At least 60% of the students in English Universities are receiving some kind of State assistance - and over and above that the Government has pegged University fees at a pre-war level, whereas all other prices have doubled or trebled since before the war. Consequently fees constitute only a small part - about 15% in most universities - of the universities incomes. 65% to 85% of the university's income is derived from State grants. The Government's money is dispensed by the University Grants Committee - which is staffed almost entirely by University people, so that the Government has little say in the expenditure of the money. In point of fact, the Universities have been at pains to avoid coming under control of the Executive. However, one influence of the Government has been seen in a recent development - money for increased staff salaries was only forthcoming if certain maximum and minimum specifications as to salary were observed. Thus the English Universities are no longer free to pay their staff what they like, as hitherto they were.

A result of the Universities becoming more or less organs of the Welfare State is that the public is expecting them to perform certain functions - viz to turn out useful professional men and do useful research. The Universities are playing up somewhat to this feeling - one sees an emphasis in their prospectuses on useful careers and useful research. Though it is an inevitable trend it is not wholly desirable, for the public - says Carr-Saunders - cannot appreciate the true purpose of a University - "a place where informed discussion is continually going on".

ANSWER TO CROSSWORD PUZZLE.

Across: 1. Unmentionable. 6. Dean. 7. Roof. 9. Snarl. 12. Gandor. 13. Portia. 14. Oberon. 16. Demean. 18. Strop. 20. Dais. 21. Mimi. 22. Imperturbable.

Down: 1. Underground. 2. Moan. 2. Tanner. 4. Overup. 5. Boor. 8. Final notice. 10. Adorn. 11. Drums. 15. Not out. 16. Deodar. 17. Limp. 19. Limb.

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MEDICAL ETHICS

BY

PROFESSOR G.A. ELLIOTT

The ethics of investigative medicine.

"I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgment, but never with a view to injury or wrong doing." - The Hippocratic Oath.

"That I will not knowingly or intentionally do anything or administer anything to their hurt or prejudice." - Declaration of our Graduates.

"Under no circumstances is a doctor permitted to do anything that would weaken the physical or mental resistance of the human being, except from strictly therapeutic and prophylactic indications imposed in the interest of the patient." - International Code of Ethics.

"I will maintain the utmost respect for human life, from the time of conception; even under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity." - Declaration of Geneva.

In the terms of varying emphasis of these quotations from ethical codes is expressed the sacredness of the doctor's responsibility for the welfare of his patients.

The process of advancing knowledge of medicine carries attendant dangers to the human being. In the therapeutic field, new surgical techniques, later proved to be life-saving, may in the early stage of their development be dangerous because of the lack of experience of the prime investigator who conscientiously conceived the technique. New drugs carry the dangers of unknown toxic effects when they are first put to clinical use. Diagnostic tests may be not without danger; in the early days of cardiac catheterisation, fatalities occurred which can now be avoided through lessons learned from experience.

Experimental investigation in the human may vary from the harmless taking of a sample of blood, to the "terminal" experiments that were carried out during World War II, such as exposing human beings to extreme cold with the avowed object of studying resuscitation methods but with fatal results in many cases.

In all investigative and pioneering work in the field of medicine, there are two rules of ethics that must be followed:-

(a) Dangers or inconveniences, immediate or remote, incidental upon the test or treatment, must be explained to the patient, and

(b) The patient, having been informed of the risks, must submit voluntarily to the test or treatment.

The patient must be aware that there is an operative risk in the case of a surgical operation, or a risk of serious illness in an inoculation experiment. He must be warned that a drug being used is likely to produce a serious toxic effect, if such be the case. If the chances of toxic or other side effect are remote on the other hand, unnecessary anxiety would be caused the volunteer if he was warned of such possibility; one would scarcely warn the patient of the risk of developing homologous serum jaundice following an ATS injection.

The investigator is responsible for his actions, and must be able to justify what he has done to the satisfaction of his own conscience, and to the satisfaction of any enquiry that might be held into his conduct in the event of disaster happening to the patient.

To distinguish between what is ethical and what is legal, and what is unethical and what is illegal, in regard to medical investigative procedures, may be difficult. The welfare of the patient is the first consideration.

DR. MACE.

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF MARRIAGE

GUIDANCE

The marriage relationship, Dr. Mace told a large medical student audience, was unique among human relationships in that a sex relationship lay at its heart.

One half of all married couples emerged from the honeymoon without having attained sex adjustment. Yet few doctors seem able to help. Some advise the couple to consult a marriage Guidance clinic. One told an impotent husband to eat nuts.

There is a big gap in the education of medical men if they cannot help in this important matter. They should help train all married men in sex technique, for there is more than plain instinct involved. Impulses are untrustworthy and must be controlled. All man's culture must be called upon if a bungling mess of the sex elation is not to be made - this is why sex education is so important. Otherwise cultured may behave like animals.

Correct Sex technique brings the possibility of simultaneous orgasm - with a unique feelin of physical and spiritual fusion - "the little death"

The ability of finding this experience at will creates a bond which can hold a marriage together, concluded Dr. Mace.

R.S.W.D.

THE S.A. INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH.

The Institute originally came into being because of the interest of the Chamber of Mines in research in South Africa into problems of importance in the economic life of the country, like silicosis, pneumonia, etc. The Chamber erected the present buildings (designed by Sir Herbert Baker), and together with the Union Health Department and the C.S.I.R. they provide the Institute with a yearly income of about £22,000. For a project that employs 300 scientists and technicians, this income is clearly inadequate, but is supplemented by the proceeds from the vast amount of routine work done for the Provincial Hospitals. Last year the number of specimens examined at the Central Laboratories (and the Institute runs smaller laboratories at the outlying hospitals) amounted to nearly one million. The majority were bacteriological, serological, haematological and biochemical. The production of vaccines and sera also provides the Institute with some income, but these are only produced when not readily available through commercial channels--with which the Institute does not wish to compete.

Thus routine work takes much of the time, and provides much of the income of the establishment. From a research point of view this work is not barren, for a great deal of research material flows directly from routine work. Much research, for instance, has been done into allergy, although the department under Dr. Ordman was originally a purely routine one, concerned with allergy detection, desensitization and production of extracts. Again, in the department concerned with sera and vaccine production, research into methods of purification by electrophoresis, dialysis, etc, has been stimulated by the routine work.

So the Institute appears to combine the functions of a clinical laboratory, a research institute and a pharmaceutical factory. Only fine organization enables it to perform these diverse functions on its limited income. Although there are at present 32 research projects in hand, research in many instances could be on a much wider front were the funds available. The Polio Institute could be established by public generosity (and the blood, sweat and tears of S.A.I.M.R.'s director, Dr. Cluver). Half of the half-million collected in appeal has already gone towards the erection of the buildings at Riet-fontein and the project must now run on the interest accruing on the remainder. There is the closest co-operation with the parent Institute, and all virus research has already been transferred there.

But many of the projects are forced to operate on a somewhat restricted scale. For instance, Dr. Dottie is the only research fellow in the recently-established cancer research unit. He is engaged on an

Con. Page 5 Column 3.



Diary of a Dilettante

Went along to a MEDICAL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL last week - they persuaded me to play the piano - and spent a most absorbing hour rehearsing Mozart and Haydn. It was hard work too, for conductor Teddy Blecher proved to be a keen and efficient maestro, and saw to it that the members of the orchestra crammed into that all-too-swiftly-passing space of time as much concord (and a little discord !) as was possible. The orchestra is slowly expanding and becoming stabilized; already we have string, piano and wind-instruments (including recorders), and rehearsals are held at 5 o'clock on Thursday evenings - the music at present being the delightful Menuetto and Trio of Haydn's Oxford Symphony and Mozart's Symphony No. 39. But above all, we would be extremely glad to receive new members to the orchestra, so if you're interested - whether you be medical, dental, therapy or science student, either contact Teddy Blecher, or leave your name with Bekky at the S.M.C. office. I can tell you that playing in an orchestra is hard work, but lots and lots of fun !

Another thing I managed to get myself roped into a couple of weeks ago was organizing an ART EXHIBITION, in fact, THE Medical School Art Exhibition (by virtue of the fact, I believe, of having dabbled in one year B.A. Fine Arts). Have never organised an exhibition before, but one supposes that 2nd year medicine is as good a time as any; mind you, there are only two - yes TWO - students arranging the exhibition, and one of these is me, and No. 2 went off to do a spell of work in labour wards at the Queen Vic. last week. I have been FRANTIC. Did you know that trying to contact a student at a maternity home is near, - well impossible? Rang up one, rang up twice - rang up six times over; on each occasion a charming male voice, informed me that my friend was BUSY in the labour wards, but would be delighted to take a message. I was grimly contemplating sending him a telegram to-day, when Lo and Behold, there he was at medical school to-day. Bumped into him in fact, going along to Dr. Mace's lecture.

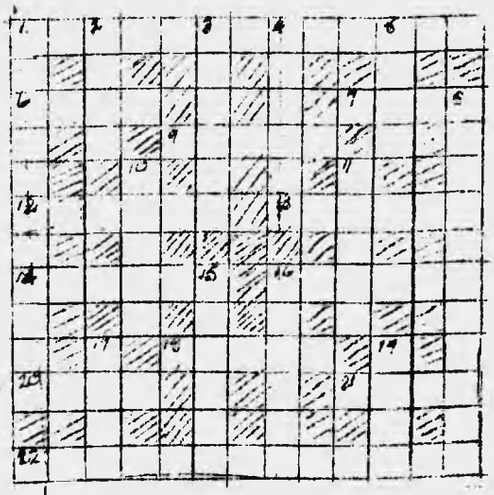
But down to business; the FIRST WEEK IN JUNE is the date set for the exhibition which is open to all medical people, qualified or otherwise. Entries can be any of the following; paintings, drawings, caricatures, etchings sculpturing, wood-work, linocuts etc., and entry forms can be obtained from the S.M.C. office.

That reminds me, I must remember to type out some entry forms next tea-break. Incidently, please let us have your exhibits by Friday the 28th of May - they can be left at the S.M.C. office. This year the exhibition will be held in the Sutherland-Strachan museum because the lighting there is better than in Medical House where previous exhibitions have been shown.

Must rush off now because Dave hopes to shut up the S.M.C. office and go home for dinner, so good-bye until next issue.

Marilyn.

What do you think of the New Auricle ?



Across:

1. Better left unsaid. (13).
6. He does not necessarily love to be a Dane. (4).
7. It is just as well to have one over one's head. (4).
9. Growl like a dog. (5).
12. But he is not a danger to a goose. (6).
13. Character in the "Merchant of Venice". (6).
14. King of the Fairies in "Midsummer-night's Dream". (6).
16. Lower the dignity of. (6).
18. Are backward harbours used for sharpening razors? (5).
20. On which many words are often said. (4).
21. A girl's name which is worth 2002? (4).
22. Not excitable though a little devil at first. (13).

Down:

1. Is this the reason why coffee often tastes like sand? (11).
2. Complain. (4).
3. Sixpence. (6).
4. Umpires remark after 6 or 8. (4, 2).
5. A ill mannered man found in 14. (4).
8. Last warning. (5, 6).
10. Deck with ornaments starting with a fuss. (5).
11. Percussion instruments with spirit within. (5).
15. Cricket term. (3, 3).
16. Himalayan cedar, found in dead orchards. (6).
17. 19 may become this. (4).
19. Most of 17 - part of the body. (4).

(All crosswords by D. Klachko and E. Morris, answers on Page).

S.A.I.M.R. Con. from Page 4.

important survey which could be of much wider scope were a large research staff available. And lack of the expensive equipment in which all American Universities seem to abound precludes any extensive cytochemical work. However, it is always difficult to say that research is impeded by lack of equipment or staff. Brilliant minds and original methods may be more important. One can only say that research at the Institute would be conducted on wider front were the funds available.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(The editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in these columns)

Dear Sir,

Our University is entering a crucial phase in its history...in fact its very existence as a true University is being threatened. It was thus very heartening to see that the S.L.A. at Medical School is playing a worthy and courageous role in the struggle to maintain the intellectual and moral independence of Wits. If Wits were to capitulate to the herrenvolk ideology of the Nationalist government and academic segregation were to be introduced here, Wits would entirely cease to be a University.

Dr. Raikes in a letter to all students in August 1952 said that a University should teach what is scientific truth to those capable of benefitting from such tuition, irrespective of colour or creed etc. Only recently the Senate, the highest academic body at Wits, by 23 to 10 votes passed a motion holdingthat any discrimination in academic matters is a conflict with the aims and objects of the university and any departure from the policy so far followed would be undesirable.

We see thus that the policy the government wishes to impose at Wits is opposed on intellectual and academic grounds by the academicians at this University. Convocation, the Lecturers' Association and the S.R.C. have also expressed their strong disapproval.

The S.L.A. at Medical School together with the S.M.C. Diogenes, and the C.C.S. held a very successful series of meetings at Medical School last term to mobilise student opinion against the avowed and determined attacks of the government. The student body here, are convinced that admission to Wits should be on the basis of academic merit only. But a conviction is ineffectual unless supported by positive action. The S.L.A. and the student body cannot now sit back and say, "We are convinced." They must, sir, be prepared to prove their sincerity.

Mr. Editor, sir, if we view the attacks of the government on Wits in isolation from events in South Africa past and present, there would be little we could do to secure the freedom of our University. This attack of Malan and Co. is yet another of its attacks against the freedom of the individual; it is but another face of the polyhedron of fascism, a polyhedron which has too many faces already. There are the faces of Bantu Education Act, Group Areas Act, Native Resettlement Act, Settlement of Disputes Act, Criminal Laws Amendment Act, Public Safety Act, Suppression of Communism Act, Riotous Assemblies Amendment Act, and numerous others.

To view only one face of this polyhedron is to blind oneself to the reality and to fight only one face is like fighting a one-dimensional image. Only in a democratic South Africa can Wits ever be free and independent, can Wits ever be a true University. If we wish Wits to be such a University, sir, we must join in the struggle for a democratic South Africa. That is, I maintain, the action that sincere students at Wits are bound to take.

Yours etc.,

A. KUSHLICK.

5TH YEARS AND DANNY KAYE

Danny would seem to be getting more than a passing acquaintance with our 5th year lot. First there was Robbie (not a bad start) and then—well if you haven't heard the story, here goes. Should do your coronary good.

A bunch of beserk 5th years (should hate to mention names, but there was Bokkie (ringleader,) Emil, Chris, Garrard and Unohoo) donned white coats and descended on Danny at the Carlton. In solemn white-coated procession they advanced on his room brandishing a large doctor's bag stuffed with impressive instruments - stethoscopes, ophthalmoscopes etc., displayin in the ostentatious 3rd-year manner - and a book on American Public Health for style. The claimed to be—hold it—Public Health Inspectors, and demanded to be shown Danny's yellow-fever certificate.

Danny they found strumming nonchalantly (it is not clear from the account whether he was utilizing 2 or 3 fingers in the process) on the piano. It was clearly expedient first to conduct an examination of Danny's manager-cum-bodyguard, a bl ke called Ducoff and of impressive proportions. They clapped a stethoscope on him. Then the way seemed clear for bigger game, and Danny came in for attention. He produced his papers as he was bid. The "inspectors" pronounced them O.K. and prepared themselves for further procedure. They had planned a little harmless inoculation. But the strain proved too much for our medical stalwarts and they confessed. From all accounts it was Bokkie who first experienced softening in the solar plexus region and yielded to the impending hysterial spasm of the diaphragm.

Anyway, Danny was greatly amused, and denied that he had

Continued in next column.

really been taken in. He didn't believe they'd send 5 blooming doctors to check his papers. He then delivered himself of a brief tutorial on the subject of medical nomenclature, and spoke wisely on appendicitis. Surgery he confided, was his main interest.

The Bantu Infants' start in life.

RESEARCH AT THE INSTITUTE.

(1) THE SERUM CALCIUM of pregnant and lactating Bantu women rises as against the fall found normally in European women. Does this hold significance for the mother or infant? The Institute is investigating the question.

(2) RICKETS is of frequent occurence among Bantu children in Johannesburg. The Institute is conducting rural and urban surveys in the hope of finding a relation between incidence of the disease, blood biochemistry and nutritional background.

(3) BANTU BREAST MILK. The effect of a diet composed largely of maize products—and very poor in both niacin and tryptophan, on breast milk has been investigated. It is found that on the staple maize diet, the milk niacin content is half that of the milk of European mothers, whereas when Bantu mothers consume a Europeanised diet, their milk has much the same niacin content as in European mothers. The same phenomenon is not noticed in the case of tryptophan, which is much the same in the breast milks of both Bantu and European mothers.

The nutritional significance of this discovery, and its relation to pellagra, is still being sought.

(4) MALNUTRITION AT WEANING. The malnutritional syndrome of "kwashiorkor" is found in half of the Bantu children of under 2 years in Johannesburg wards. The Institute has examined the food that Bantu mothers are inclined to provide for their infants, and has discovered that it is too little and of the wrong type. On the whole it meets only 26-86% of the child's calorie requirements. In other words, they must be half starved.

The Institute is looking into other problems of a biochemical nature that are related to Bantu nutrition. Why, for instance, are serum cholestrol and protein, and liver function, almost identical in Bantu and European infants but significantly different by the time adulthood is reached. These matters have a vital significance in the health of the Bantu people.

EVOLUTION AND THE BIBLE

Last Thursday evening saw a very successful symposium on "Evolution and the Bible" presented by the Archeological and Anthropological Society. The speakers were Dr. Jeffries, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology; Dr. Roux, Senior Lecturer in Botany; Dean Randolph of St. Mary's Cathedral, and Rabbi Arrow, Dr. Tobias was in the Chair,

Dr. Tobias first pointed out that the topic was NOT a debate of Evolution versus the bible, but a Symposium on Evolution and the Bible.

He said that the failure to find a solution to this time-honoured subject could be attributed to the failure of scientists and theologians to find common ground. Scientists spoke in a strictly scientific vein, and theologians likewise "spoke theology". The one side did not fully appreciate the arguments of the opposite side and hence no rational solution had ever been reached. Dr. Tobias thus appealed to the speakers to try and correlate the 2 major views and arrive at some mutually satisfactory conclusion.

Dr. Roux described the bible as a sourcebook of the evolution of God, and discussed "Fundamentalism versus Evolution". Fundamentalism he defined as "a stagnant back-water of the stream of human thought." Most of his remarks however, were confined to the moral aspect of evolution. Mainly, however, he considered moral aspects of evolution. He said the bible defines man as "something just a little short of an angel" while Darwin thought that man was "something just a little above the ape." He admitted that there was a big gap between Einstein and the Congo pigmy, but insisted that "all men be treated as men - it is their right and privilege."

Dr. Roux then posed the question- how is man different from the animal? Man, he said, is aware of danger, he worries and is concerned with the thought of death, whereas animals are only concerned with their immediate environment and have no cares or worries of the future.

In favour of evolution, he said, "Disease and Godliness are not connected - why is it that a magnificent deity like our Lord who created a multitude of beautiful things, also created injurious organisms like the polio virus. Surely it doesn't seem reasonable that a creator would prepare such a paradise for man, to live in, and then create the disease-causing organisms as well. The Theologist, who believes in a Divine Creator of all things must explain this, the evolutionist who regards all living things in an anatomical and physiological relationship with one another doesn't have to."

Dean Randolph then took the floor. He expressed his delight at the topic being Evolution and the Bible and chose philosophy as the common ground with which to try and link the two subjects. Speaking mainly on man's relationship to God he stated that "Man stands in a unique relationship to God - no other animal does". The difference between Man and animal, he attributed to the freedom which Man enjoyed. "It is freedom that makes him human and freedom is not something that can be scientifically tested and measured - it is a quality divine".

The Bible was not, he said, a journal of natural science and anthropology, as many scientists erroneously supposed. "We don't quarrel with any natural scientists' theory of evolution, but it holds little real value, as the scientist makes assumptions which he is not in a position to make with finality".

The Dean concluded brilliantly with the words "man is always a biased student of himself. He is man in his freedom, his hopes, his failures and his defeats. The Bible is not the story of evolution but the story of God, and God is the root of man's fundamental being".

Then it was Dr. Jeffries turn. He started his talk by writing on the board, to the dismay of the clergy present, "Is God a Discovery or an Invention?" Speaking in his characteristic, witty style, he then declared that he was a profound evolutionist.

He challenged the remarks of the Dean concerning the soul. The soul he said, "is not something that you discover, but something that you invent - it is a function of speech not a reality". Dr. Jeffries proved that the Bible was unreliable as far as the standards of science were concerned, but admitted that it was an accurate account of the acquisition of a culture. Using Einstein's equation and the concept that "you cannot creat or destroy energy", he proved that energy always was present and because of this fact it was not necessary to have had a creator.

He defined the difference between man and animals as being. the power of speech, and deducted that "all culture is a by-product of speech - if there were no speech, there would be no religion, and thus God must be a concept of man!"

Rabbi Arrow in fluent manner endorsed some of the remarks made by the Dean, and criticised many of the scientific facts put forward by Dr. Roux and Dr. Jeffries. He definitely did not accept evolution as the sole answer to the problem and stressed his belief that God was the Divine Creator of mankind.

THIS HILL OF OURS.

Among those who fell by the way in the 38% poll 1952 S.M.C. Elections, was LYNETTE BADER. In that year, many notable hard-workers who stood for election, were rejected by the indifferent medical student electorate, the strange results surprising even the successful candidates.

Born in Durban 1931, daughter of of Physics and Maths lecturer, Lynett was schooled chiefly at Kingsmead. Laying stress on MUSIC, elocution and many sports, the LITTLE LADY entered this 'Varsity as an Arts student and after one year, turned to Medicine.

From the moment she arrived at this man's hill, 140 Bader thru' herself into academic and extracurricular work with zeal that few have managed to emulate. Serving on diverse committees such as Refectory, Debating and Music (which she chairmanned) Bader was appointed to Conference Committee in 1952 and was Chairlady hostess to the Endocrine Conference of 1953.

Despite her endeavours on students' behalf she went unrewarded and with men like Solly Berson (who slaved to build Night School), Bader was turned down at the polls. Since then, the girl who collected a first in PATH !, has confined her extra-curricular activities to the Music Society. A final year student, Lynette recently announced her engagement to Dr. Ian Poskin, and we of the Auricle take this opportunity of offering our HEARTIEST congratulations to a good gal. All the best, lassie.

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WITS DOWN TO U.C.T.

A FINE INTERVARSITY GAME.

Last Wednesday saw the opening Intervarsity of the Wits Rugby Season played at Ellis Park, before an exceptional mid-week crowd, which, I am happy to say, included a large number of Witsies. It was a fast, tense, exciting game.

Wits, shocked by an early U.C.T. goal, soon replied through a try by Zar, after a good movement. They went further ahead, when the forwards pushed the U.T.C. pack over the line and Scott and Zar both dotted down. Both these tries were converted by Herbst, who as usual, played an excellent game. Wits were now playing well, and seemed well set for victory. However, Pfaff, a brilliant centre, always looked dangerous when he got the ball.

At half-time, Wits led 10-8. Soon after the interval Wits went further ahead with another Zar try, again converted by Freddie Herbst, thus making the score 15-8.

Then U.C.T. started pressing and Wits defended dourly. Mistakes by the backs cost Wits a Cape Town try - 15-11. With minutes left for play, U.C.T. broke away, and Pfaff left the Wits backs standing, going through for a glorious try. Dick Lockyear, the U.C.T. and Western Province scrum-half took the fairly difficult conversion, and sent it soaring over the posts, making the score 16-15 in U.C.T. favour. An excellent game, with a few lapses by our backs that lost us the game.

Clive Ulyate did not have a good game at all. The Kaminer twins seem to have lost the art of tackling, a fact which was brought home on Saturday when Wits were beaten 18-6 by Union.

In contrast, the forwards played excellent Rugby, both in the tight and in the loose. What a pity their Herculean efforts are wasted in so marked a manner by backs who are considered of provincial standing.

However, we all wish the team the very best of luck in their forthcoming Intervarsity with Tukkies, taking place on May 22nd at Ellis Park. Let us hope, and be there to cheer them on, that this last weeks play will not be repeated.

WITS SOCCER RISES FROM THE DOLDRUMS.

Soccer - This is a sport which is virtually neglected at Wits. Yet the Wits first team does consistently well in the annual intervarsity competition. At present in the Southern Transvaal 1st league, which corresponds to 3rd Division, they are making a great attempt to gain promotion to the 2nd Division Transvaal League. At the time of writing they have won 1 and lost 1 of their opening fixtures, the other game being drawn.

Many Medical students are and were associated with the Soccer Club. At present, Perdikies, the Secretary of the Club, and Grisdale are regular first team players, while in the other team many Medicals play. The Second Team are playing very well, and are unbeaten to date, but owing to lack of keenness, the performance of the under 21 side leaves much to be desired. I am assured, however, that Wits will continue the tradition of winning the Soccer Intervarsity, held this year in Cape Town. We wish them the best of luck in this laudable ambition.

MEMO!

Eats !

Grills to 1 a.m. !!

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SPORTING PROFILES.

No. 1. Neville Katzen.

This week the "Auricle" introduces its new sporting personality column, "Sporting Profiles" - and just to set the ball rolling we give you handsome twenty-one-year old NEVILLE KATZEN, popular Chairman and Captain of the Wits Tennis Club.

While still at Parktown Boy's High, Neville first hit the tennis headlines, winning numerous junior tournaments including the South African junior title.

After coming to Medical School his tennis seemed to suffer a slight lapse, due entirely to pressure of work and consequently to lack of sufficient practise. His four years at 'varsity has brought him a B.Sc (Medical) degree and he is now in his fourth year of Medicine.

Meanwhile he represented South Africa twice at the Maccabi Games in Israel where he showed outstanding form being runner up for the men's singles title.

More recently Neville's tennis has shown a marked improvement. Captaining Wits and Combined 'Varsities in this year's tennis intervarsity at Cape Town, he showed brilliant form, topping an unbeaten record with a fine win over Western Province's Tony Charnock!

In two clashes with world ranking Jaroslav Drobny, Neville again showed his class. Once he failed to hold set points after leading Drobny, and again at Ellis Park, after being well in the lead, he went down to Drobny after a very game fight. Neville's most recent success has been the winning of the South African Men's Plate - really a grand achievement!

And with performances such as these, this reporter feels that further success in the tennis world will not elude Neville for very long. Neville has been a great credit to Medical School, and the best wishes of all students go with him in his quest for higher honours.

GOOD LUCK NEVILLE!