



THE AURICLE

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE MEDICAL STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND

WHY WELCH ALLYN ?

(Series No.5)

Continued from Series No.4 .

4. VITREOUS

Abnormalities of the vitreous can be studied in two different ways. The first and simpler method reveals only that opacities are or are not present. The second reveals not only their presence, but a fairly accurate localization of the opacities. Both methods should be used.

A With the 'O' aperture direct light into the patient's pupil so that the red reflex appears. Now instruct the patient to look first up, then down, then right, then left, moving only the eyes. If opacities are present they will be seen moving about as the patient changes the position of his eyes

B Having found opacities it is then essential to locate them. To do so, proceed just as if you were about to examine the fundus. Get the disc in view, then by rotating into the sight hole plus lenses of increasing power you will see the various depths of the vitreous arriving finally at the point where the posterior surface of the lens is in focus. A hyaloid artery remnant may be followed in this manner from the disc to the lens.

METHOD OF EXAMINATION

There are two things necessary for indirect ophthalmoscopy, an ophthalmoscope and a separate lens about 20-30 mm. in diameter, of plus 12 to plus 14 diopter strength. Pupils should be dilated for best results

For the right eye, place the separate lens 2 inches in front of the patient's eye with your left hand. Hold the ophthalmoscope with a plus 4 lens in the aperture before your right eye in the same manner as for the direct method. Turn the light on and direct it through the lens in the left hand into the pupil. The reflex again appears.

To see the details of the fundus by this method one must stay at about ten or twelve inches from the patient. If the disc does not appear at first, move toward or away until some vessels appear, then follow the vessels to the disc. It may be necessary to change the lens in the ophthalmoscope to get a sharp image of the fundus. Although you will see a larger area of retina at one time by this method the magnification is not as great, hence small details may be overlooked, but better estimation of the extent and exact location of some lesions is more accurately made.

The various parts of the fundus are studied in a manner similar to the procedure used for direct ophthalmoscopy. For the left eye, the whole procedure is reversed just as in the direct method.

.....

This week's "Westcrack"

It's a good thing that wide belts are now in vogue, what with the skirts getting shorter and the necklines getting lower.

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NIGHT SCHOOL: GENERAL MEETING ON MONDAY

Next Monday there will be a General Meeting in the Harveian to discuss the following proposal:-

"That permission be granted by the medical student body for the use of Mens' Common Room and Junior Womens' Common Room as premises for the S.M.C. Night School on 4 nights of the week."

This Night School was started for hospital employees and was previously held in the dining room of their hostel. Africans working in the neighbourhood were attracted and soon the majority of pupils were not hospital employees. This year the hospital authorities withdrew the use of their premises and since then there has been no Night School.

Now the University authorities have finally granted the use of University premises, and it rests with you to give the final permission so that people who want to learn may not be denied this fundamental Right.

Congratulations Prof. Gillman.

The Auricle wishes to extend its congratulations to Professor J. Gillman, Professor of Physiology at Wits, on being awarded the South African Science Medal and Grant for 1952-53.

This is awarded for "achievement and promise in scientific research in South Africa".

Editor: R. Yodaiken
Assistant Editor: D. Rabinowitz
Treasurer: N. Levin
Cartoonist: E. Gruebel-Le e .
Odd girl out: R. Kronik.

Others involved: M. Sorokin
P. Aaron, N. Baumslag,
S. Friedman, C. de Reynier,
K. Abrams, S. Javett.
Head-lines: C. Apostolus .

LOOKING BACK OVER THE FIRST 33 YEARS.

By Professor R.A. DART. (The 5th in this Series)



Our graduates have also displayed that VARIETY OF RACE which is as wide as human-kind. Our first coloured graduate, I believe was John Thomas De Rundt in 1933. During the late twenties, af-

ter the government refused the Carnegie offer of £70,000 to initiate a Native Medical School at Fort Hare, our School was forced by circumstances to address itself to the question of its attitude towards educating non-Europeans. When they were asked by questionnaire to declare their attitude the overwhelming majority of students demanded that they be trained in their own country instead of going overseas, that they be admitted to the existing schools and share the same classrooms, laboratories and common-rooms as their fellow European students. At first only Indians had the necessary matriculation qualifications to enter, but subsequently they were joined by Chinese and by Bantu students both male and female. The Government also erected a hostel for Bantu students six of whom annually, if they completed the first year of study successfully at Fort Hare, were provided with full bursaries to carry them through the remaining five years of training in our Medical School. The experience gained by this experiment carried out by the students and staff of this school has led to the erection of South Africa's fourth Medical School, to open in Durban next February, devoted entirely to non-Europeans and costing £350,000. Occasions will doubtless arise in the future, as to the past history

of Africa when the Union will find a source of thankfulness as well as pleasure in recalling that variety of races and concomitant religions was added to the past experience of this still youthful group of graduates of the University of the Witwatersrand. (In next weeks article in this series, Professor Dart discusses the birth of the Leech)

SCIENCE SOCIETY RETURNS

The following programme of lectures, has been arranged for this term.

May 1st. "Running of Research in Scientific Stakes".
.....Dr. Murray

May 8th. "Research into Porphyria".....
.....Mr. Barnes.

June 3rd. "Prospects of Behaviour Research"
.....Dr. Papert

June 11th. "Race, Rationalism and Rot".....
....Dr. Tobias.

June 19th. "Black Death, big rat and all that 'Research into Plague'.....
.....Dr. Amirs

These are the opening lectures, which the newly revived Science Society is arranging on a wide range of topics.

All they ask is that students attend the meetings and support their endeavours to encourage discussion on scientific subjects.

CYBERNETICS.

A REPLY TO DR. PAPERT.

Although Dr. Papert does sound a mild note of warning with regard to the new "Science" of Cybernetics, it is lamentable to find him succumbing to the temptation, as he himself puts it, of accepting it as a Philosopher's Stone which may provide the "key to the higher functions of the Nervous System".

Any reasonably balanced review of this subject should include some mention of the background of scientific thought which has given it birth. Today, in almost every field of scientific endeavour, from physics to psychiatry, men of genius are still attempting to reconcile Observed Facts with the Philosophical Idealism which is the unfortunate heritage of the Western world.

Biologists today are conscious of the futility of teleological descriptions; they are faced with the inevitability of subscribing to the tenets which Scientific Materialists have taught for the past 100 years. Rather than swallow this bitter pill, they seize upon Cybernetics, even as physicists have seized on Logical Positivism and economists on Keynes, and seek with these hybridised compromises to remain attuned to the socio-economic dictates of contemporary Society.

The chief contribution of Cybernetics has been the "arousal of specific attitudes, rather than the display of a concrete body of knowledge". (1) Although mechanical recognising devices can be made which operate independently of the size or orientation of the object viewed, (e.g. a prismatic form will always be recognised as a prism) we are still as far as ever from the human brain which reacts to patterns that are formed through its own past experience, i.e. it is self-

organising, establishing its own connections etc. It is this latter function, as Prof. J.Z. Young points out in a recent work, (2) which constitutes the fundamental superiority of the human mind.

The self-regulatory feedback mechanism play an essential role in the organisation of especially the suprasegmental regions of the central nervous system cannot be disputed. (3) But when on the strength of this people create a new Science, a deus ex machina, then we must look for perhaps ulterior motivations. Prof. Adrian of Cambridge, one of the world's leading neurologists, may provide the answer when he complains: "the real trouble...(in his neurological researches)...comes from the feeling that there may be an important part of the picture which can never be fitted in, however long we may work at it." (4)

Contrast this "feeling" with the dialectical standpoint of Scientific Materialism that the World has a real existence that all events are casually determined, and nothing is inherently unknowable.

But it is to the Cybernetics bandwagon that Dr. Paper seems to insist on hitching his cart.

J. Herberg

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1. Mundy-Castle, A.C., (1953) S.A.M.J. 27, 3.
2. Young, J.Z. (1951) Doubt and Certainty in Science, Oxford Un. Press.
3. Wright, M.K. (1952) Fibre System of the Brain and Spinal Cord, Wits. Un. Press.
4. Adrian, E.D. (1950) The Physical Basis of Mind (Ed. Laslett) Oxford. B. Blackwell



THE POET'S CORNER.



CHESS CLUB



The Frog's Dream.

By X. laevis.

(With apologies to H.W. Longfellow)

Inside the dissecting dish he lay,
A pin in either hand;
His claws so rare, his coracoids
bare
No further could expand.
Again, in the mist of the for-
malin,
He saw his Native Strand.

Wide through the landscape of
his dreams
The mighty Zoo Lake lay;
Beneath the rushes there, again
As King he still held sway;
And heard the lovers whispering
Along the lakeside way.

He saw once more his slimy Queen
Among their tadpoles swim;
These flicked their tails, no
thought arose
Of future happenings grim.
From his nictitating membrane
the teardrops fell,
And welled right o'er the rim.

Above him like a vengeful sword
The brand new scalpel gleamed;
The blade at last came plunging
down
To his linea alba, it seemed.
But halfway down it wavered,
slipped -
A woman student screamed.

He did not feel the needle's
prick,
Nor the blade his epidermis
splay;
The blood came gushing out and
he
All mutilated lay.
The hand had missed its mark and
cut
The abdominal vein clean away!

Since the beginning of this year the Chess Society has had two successful inter-club meetings viz., victory for Medical School team against Athlone and Jeppe High Schools. Further matches are being arranged against Johannesburg Chess Society and other clubs; so come along and compete for a place in the team. Meetings are held every Tuesday and Thursday during lunch-hour in the Physiotherapy Room - bring your friends - bring your lunch - and come and enjoy a game of chess. Everyone is welcome - especial-ly beginners.

.....oOo.....

Contributions are still urgently required. Please don't be bash-ful. We require stories, poems and articles of interest. This is your paper - we depend on you!!!!!!!
HAND IN (OR POST) YOUR CONTR-IBUTION TO THE SMC OFFICE .

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-----oOo-----

EDITORIAL.

S.R.C. ELECTIONS.

The results of the S.R.C. Elections have proved a resounding victory for the "No-Confidenced" S.R.C. One can only conclude on the light of the contradictory results of the recent Referendum and Monday's election, that the student body after being emotionally swayed by certain individuals into regarding the forceful action of the S.R.C. as being "precipitous and tactless", have taken stock of the situation and at length seen the Crisis which revolved around the readmittance of non-Europeans into Second Year in its correct perspective.

We of the Auricle are pleased to see that most of the newly elected S.R.C. have pledged themselves to uphold the principles on which this University was established. Grave dangers beset the University, which is being actively threatened with imminent Government action, and it is pleasing to note that we will again have at the helm men of the calibre of Getz and Co. who will strive forcibly to uphold our rights!

More power to them and may they succeed in their difficult task of steering the University through a sea of troubled waters.

Auricle Innovations.

This week, the Auricle is instituting - for the first time, we believe in the paper's history - a weekly Crossword Competition for readers, which offers the not inconsiderable reward of half-a-guinea to the lucky winner.

We hope that our readers will "have a shot" at what is really nothing more than a 10-minute crossword puzzle. Should the response be good, the entrance fee will be lowered, and the number of prizes increased.

THE

LIBRARIAN

SAYS..

Two new books in the Library are Side effects of drugs by I. Meyler, and Poisoning by W.F. von Oettingen. Both of these books stress the importance of knowing the effects of the many new drugs that are constantly being produced. The book by von Oettingen includes far more than new drugs, however, and is one of the most comprehensive recent books on poisoning. It is arranged for easy reference in four parts. Part one gives a classification of poisons, the medico-legal aspects of poisoning, and the emergency measures and equipment required for treatment. Part two is on the diagnosis of cases of suspected poisoning; part three describes treatment, and part four is an alphabetical list of poisons with a brief note on the effects produced and the correct treatment. This part also includes references to articles in journals, so that a fairly complete bibliography of poisoning is provided.

The book by Meyler is written in a very concise style, but also provides an extensive bibliography which enables the reader to obtain fuller information. Indeed, this would seem to be its most valuable feature as the descriptive paragraphs are too brief to be of much use in themselves except as a guide to the potential dangers associated with the use of many modern therapeutic agents.

A.C. Dick

S.M.C. SUPPLIES ASSOCIATION

NOW AVAILABLE....

The living body...Best and
Taylor
(3rd edition revised)

Country Doctor.

On the last day of last term Dr. William Pickles gave a lecture on epidemiology. Epidemiology being the study of occurrence and distribution of disease and is usually restricted to epidemics and endemics. This charming lecture conducted in an informal and delightful manner, illustrated by slides and Dr. Pickles' self-made charts, compiled over a period of 20 years, were all presented. Many more students would have attended his lecture had they only understood the meaning of epidemiology.

Dr. Pickles is one of the pioneers on epidemiology, especially as far as epidemic hepatitis is concerned. He works in the village of Wessdale and pointed out that the advantage of working in a village is that one gets to know not only all the villagers but the loves of the young, quarrels of the old and intimate affairs of all members of the community; the country doctor even gets to know all the dogs by name and sometimes the cats as well!

When he graduated his attitude to his practise was, "I'm not going to a school, I know it all", an attitude of many young doctors. It was soon after, that he received his first shock, for it was then that he saw epidemic jaundice in the country districts of England. The Textbooks proved to be of little value. It was his problem and he had to work on it for the most part, alone.

In 1929 he attended 118 cases of jaundice in his district and is firmly convinced from his observations and records contrary to the view of pathologists, that it is carried by droplet infection and not in the stools.

He found that after a village fête an epidemic cattahral jaundice occurred. He then traced 8 of the patients and found that they had had the common experience

of being present at a village fête. It was obvious that someone present at the fête had infected the others. It was not with much difficulty that he found the culprit - a young girl who the morning before the fête he had been called in to attend - had eluded him, gone to the fête, and in doing so had given rise to an epidemic.

Visits of villagers to the towns are rare and important occasions, and frequently lead to introduction of epidemics. Thus one is rarely at a loss as to the genesis of epidemics since the movement of ones patients are easily traced.

A young schoolmistress went on holiday to Scarborough and came back feeling unwell to start the school term. In the course of that morning 78 people became infected. It was easy to trace the outbreak from individual to individual.

Dr. Pickles compiled records conscientiously and intelligently. His wife recorded them on charts and so the information was collated. (Dr. Pickles said that once in praising his wife's contribution to his work he must have spoken a little too highly of her for the next day the papers reported that she wrote all his speeches!)

He suggested that in country practice one has invaluable experience seeing milder infectious diseases which are not very well dealt with in a teaching hospital. Students should see these cases in their natural habitat before they qualify. The life of a country doctor involves great responsibility and he is reminded of the Rosetti's - "Does the road wind up-hill all the way? Yes - to the very end!"

FASCINATING FACETS OF MODERN SCIENCE.



Present-day medical education allows little time for a topic of absorbing interest to adolescents of all ages. The subject is usually glossed over in a furtive manner, thus stimulating unhealthy interest and morbid curiosity in what should be regarded as a natural phenomenon.

The author therefore presents below, in simple lay language, some notes from his own case - studies on the toxic effects of water.

"Oestrogen - free tap water is bombarded with epsilon particles from an electrophoresis machine. The liquid is then frozen for 24 hours. The product, which bears a superficial resemblance to ordinary ice, exhibits certain very peculiar properties: the crystals have a tired, dejected look, emit a low, screaming noise when rubbed together, and rotate the plane of polarised light in all directions simultaneously. (compare Beeman, N.Y. State Police Journal, 1943)

For quantitative toxicity studies, human "guinea pigs" were chosen less for their resemblance to the genuine article than for their enthusiasm for advancing the cause of scientific research. Well-nourished introverts proved to be the best subjects.

The test solution consisted of the special ICE (prepared as described above) (0.5 gms.) in commercial brandy (1 litre). It was found that the bulk of the dose could be administered orally with the active co-operation of the subject. So quickly, however, did the ICE exhibit its toxic effects, that the final few hundred ccs. were administered while the subject was in a semi-comatose condition.

Rapid pulse, bulging eyes, and sensations of alternate heaviness and lightness in the

cranial cavity were noted in most subjects after 10 minutes. These symptoms were followed by jabbing pains in the frontal region of the brain, halitosis, gastritis and extreme nervous irritation (not relieved by massive doses of Vitamin B1). Double vision and frequent eructation were observed in some of the test group. The sight and odour of alcoholic beverages produced reflex nausea. In the acutely poisoned subjects, diarrhoea, acne, and split personality appeared within 24 hours.

Relief was afforded to a small proportion of the test group by administering a mixture of Worcestershire sauce (7 fl. ozs.), olive oil (2 fl. ozs.) and yolk of egg (5 fl. ozs.) orally every 2 hours for a day. Most of the group gallantly elected to remain unrelieved.

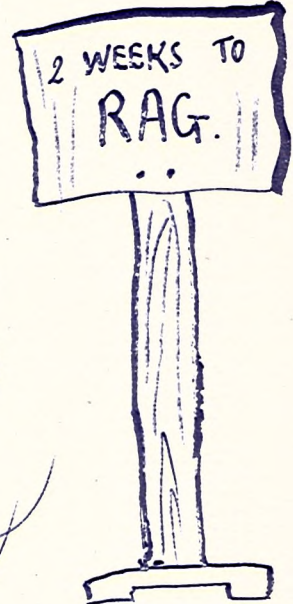
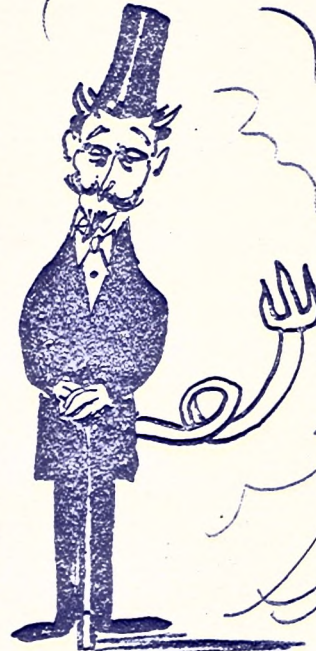
One subject was brought to autopsy. The tissues appeared normal, but examination under the television microscope revealed numerous crystals of the ICE sticking out of the cerebral cortex, making contact with the calcarium.

In a control group of subjects, ordinary ice (0.5 gms.) in water (1 litre) was given as before. No symptoms developed. (compare Beeman. loc. cit.)

"Ajax"

Further humorous pseudo-scientific articles by "Ajax" - the nom-de-plum concealing the identity of a well-known figure - will be published in future issues of the Auricle.

THERES A RAG REPRESENTATIVE
WAITING AT EVERY
CORNER.



on
1953.

? 20 QUESTIONS.

A packed Harveian Theatre saw Paul (Cynic) Levy preside in true Cedric Messina - Nicholas Monserrat style over the 6 hand picked brain children of Medical School.

Shining lights in the star studded team proved to be Messrs. Len Taitz and Neil Schwartz who continually embarrassed the Q.M. with some Q.S. (quick silver) questions.

The "Rag Procession" almost provided an impassable obstacle for the team. Although one member had a brain storm and confirmed that the object had some-thing to do with transport and that Medical Students were invol-ved, a colleague let him down rather badly by enquiring blithe-ly whether the word was - HEARSE.

"Toothbrush" brought forth various candid comments from the

team. Mr. Tim Gordon was convinced that the word had something to do with drinking (WINE); Mr. Abrams repeatedly enquired whether it was specific to one sex (WOMEN), and Mr. L. Taitz harped on entertain-ment (SONG).

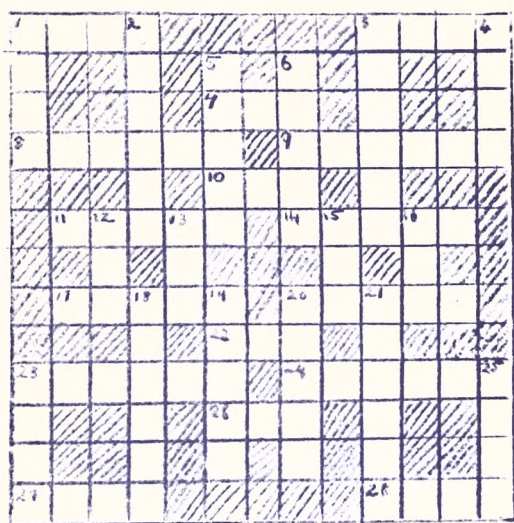
The "Question-masters voice" was a gem in itself. After some beating about the bush, one of the team innocently enquired whether it had anything to do with the Q.M's receding forehead - not much of a bush to beat at was there?! A very enjoyable lunch-hour was spent by all with the team gaining an overwhelming victory.

NUSAS FACULTY AND CULTURE STUDIES
PRESENT:-

MR. LANNON on
MEDICINE AND THE SCIENCES.

TODAY: 1.p.m. in C.B. 241,
Milner Park.

EASY AS A, B, C BY D, E



10/6^d PRIZE!

COMPETITION CROSSWORD

Rules for Entering Auricle Crossword Competition.

1. Only Medicals, Dentals, O.T.s, and P.T.s may enter.
2. No member of the Auricle Staff is allowed to enter.
3. Entries must be handed in to the Secretary of the S.M.C. by 12 o'clock Saturday.
4. All correct entries will be placed in a hat from which the winner will be drawn.
5. A fee of 6d. will be charged per entry, and any number of entries may be submitted.
6. One prize of 10/6d. is offered.

Solution to No. 5

Across: 1. marvels 4. heard
7. give 8. cremates 9. tarnishes
11. ticks 14. issue 15. sand
dunes 19. testator 20. even
21. serve 22. scrolls.

Down:

1. might 3. laces 4. homestead
5. arts 6. despise 10. intestate
12. carnival 13. minutes
16. doric 17. sands 18. tsar.

25. Hoot (4)

Across

1. Put in a lying position (4)
3. Isle of Napoleon's Exile (4)
7. Enjoyment of the song depends on the ...sung (3)
8. The tyrant ends with a mark (6)
9. Whether or not you quarrel with your servant depends on your....(6)
10. How to absorb tea (3)
11. When boys have been hunting birds eggs they are sure to have several of these under their shirts (5)
14. Slide with the side foremost (5)
17. Arithmetically inclined reptile? (5)
20. Shrub found in bald erven (5)
22. Atmosphere (3)
23. A backward street ends these occurrences (6)
24. Guard of a scooter when nothing is left out (6)
26. Naughty schoolboys like to prick their friends with a (3)
27. Gory revelry (4)
28. Tumult (4)

Down

1. Influence (4)
2. The district surgeon gets about a felony and covers it! (6)
3. Elevated in mind and spirit (6)
4. Bitter purgative - sounds like a greeting (4)
5. To set at the race course (5)
6. Stern costs (5)
12. Terminus (3)
13. Neckwear in tiers? (3)
15. Sick (3)
16. Look (3)
18. Dumb quadruped (6)
19. Snake within the Royal Society grates (5)
20. N in an area (5)
21. M.D. (6)
23. Hullo - Hullo (4)



WITS WIN DALRYMPLE CUP BY ONE POINT

The Wits Athletic Team won back the Dalrymple Cup from Cape Town in the Annual Intervarsity Athletic Champs held in Bloemfontein on Saturday, but only by a hair raisingly narrow margin - one point.

Athol Jennings was again Wits' top scorer, when he won the mile in 4 min. 20.9 secs. and the half mile in the record time of 1 min 54.5secs. until near the end it looked as if it was going to be a battle between Cape Town and Stellenbosch, but after Brian Peers and Charles Jeannot came 2nd and 3rd in the two miles and John Heath won the 440 hurdles in magnificent record time of 53.5 secs. (this is dynamite!) it was obvious that Wits had an excellent chance of pulling it off and the half mile, the last event of the day was going to decide the battle. Wits needed six points to beat Stellenbosch who had no stars in this race and so it was up to Athol Jennings to win the race and Clark had to be second or third. Well Athol won it and Clark was third, so we got our six points.

Teddy Wurtz won the hop-step-jump for Wits, and came 3rd in the long jump and Katz was 3rd in hop-step-jump. Wally Lurie cleared 12 ft. in the pole vault to come 2nd in this event.

Elaine Winter, Wits' wonder girl sprinter won the Dyason Shield by herself by winning the 100 yds in 11.3 secs, the 80 metres hurdles in 11.3 secs which is a new South African record and the 220 yds.

This is a remarkable and unprecedented feat, of which all Wits students should be very proud. Well done Elaine!

Result Wits. 32 points
Stellenbosch 31 "
Cape Town 27



NEW KINSEY REPORT ON SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE HUMAN MALE.

- 5% of men get out of bed, smoke a cigarette, and get back into bed.
- 5% get out of bed, have a wash, and get back into bed.
- 10% get out of bed, get into their own beds and go to sleep.
- 80% get out of bed and go home!

Daffynitions.

- Opera - a place where a man gets stabbed in the back with a knife and instead of bleeding - he sings!
- Engagement Ring - a tourniquet designed to prevent the circulation.
- Pessimist - something a woman uses when she doesn't want to have a baby.
- Optimist - a woman who doesn't use a pessimist.

WEAR TRIXIE'S MATERNITY
GOWNS AND MAKE THE
HEIR UNAPPARENT!!

- Peeping Tom - A wolf, window shopping.
- Divorce - What happens when two people cannot stomach each other any longer.
- Hymie - Geffenition of an S.R.C. member

Here's to the freshette who thought that a universal joint was an international brothel.

Salesgirl to customer with that look in his eye: "Sorry, this isn't the notion's counter".

WHAT IS SLOPS?