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Students` Medical Council

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THE AURICLE

Vol 5 No 17 Friday, September 24th, 1954

SCHWARTZ TOPS POLL.

In one of the highest percentage polls of recent S.M.C. elections (66½), results (although on the whole turning out very much as anticipated) nevertheless provided close observers with quite a few minor surprises and one or two major shocks.

As was confidently expected Neil Schwartz headed the poll with popular Mike Sorokin a close second. The entry of Mr. Sorokin into S.M.C. affairs has been eagerly awaited and it is a reflection of the wisdom of the electorate in placing their confidence in them.

The comfortable majority of R.E. Yodaiken was also no surprise.

Although it was generally conceded in pre-election circles that the composition of the final two places was wide open with each of the candidates having about an equal chance, the outstanding achievement of 3rd year John Blecher in collecting 158 votes was very much a surprise.

Blecher is an industrious worker and although we do not perhaps agree that the formation of a Jazz Society is the most pressing need facing this Government harrassed University, the new b[illegible] which his election will bring to the horseshoe is to be commended.

Fifth place went to experienced Buddy Miller who beat his young rival A.M. Don by the narrow margin of 26 votes.

We wish to congratulate young Don on a fine performance in so narrowly missing S.M.C. selection against such a strong candidature. In accordance with our policy of encouraging youngsters (Don is a 2nd year) there is perhaps a tinge of regret in the fact that he didn't quite make the grade.

However Don has still plenty of time and opportunity ahead and should not be discouraged by this early setback. There are many societies on which he can busy himself during the next year and thus broaden his spectrum of activities.

Results.

Schwartz N.	196
Sorokin M.	185
Yodaiken R.E.	162
Blecher J.	158
Miller J.D.R.	149
Don A.M.	123
Myer E.C.	122
Levin N.W.	111
Hoppenstein R.	95
Rummel S.P.	94
Abroms I.F.	76

Biggest surprise of the election was the defeat of Eddie Myers and Natie Levin.

Myers won fame by winning a keen by-election contest earlier this year and being current Chairman of Medical All Sports with a long and distinguished University background he was confidently tipped.

Levin was another whose rejection by the electorate is difficult to understand, in view of his valuable contributions to Auricle and Leech during the past two years.

Perhaps the reason is that there were so many good candidates and only 5 places to fill.

There is much to commend the final composition of the Council, the predominance of later years in the elected members being offset by the appearance of 3 second years in other capacities:-

Jacobson (Refectory Chairman)

Borkowf (Class Rep) and Goldberg (General Purposes).

A good augury for the future.

(News and comment by D. Rabinowitz)

STOP PRESS: Levin stands and wins 4th year Class Rep Election, and makes his way into the S.M.C. His presence should serve as an impetus for and strengthening of Council.

S.R.C.

Liberals heaved a welcome sigh of relief when S.R.C. election results were posted up.

The whole University has again shown its support for academic non-segregation, the protaganists of which are still in power - albeit for just another year.

The only candidate who stood on a "segregation" basis - in the Dental Faculty - was turfed out.

At Medical School the 4 candidates who were elected strongly affirm the policy to uphold our rights.

WHEN GOLDSTEIN GOES.

The year 1955 will see a host of new faces on the S.R.C.

As for Medical School's representation, the great 5 year old partnership of Getz-Kushlick-Goldstein has been broken forever. The two other links, Herberg and Bradlow had already made their exist last year.

And now only Goldstein remains - and this for one more short year.

While the triumvirate of Getz-Kushlick and Goldstein were in power, the era of democracy was still perpetuated at this University.

If at times their policy was the cause of much dissension in the student-ranks, this was born out of sincere and uncompromising - perhaps too uncompromising - belief in Progress - even against the growing, relentless tide of reaction. They stood not only for the maintenance of the Status Quo, but for the development of our University into something more than an isolated focus of liberalism; their hope was to turn Wits into a University guiding the people along the saner paths of racial harmony and mutual tolerance.

How far have they succeeded and how much do we lose by losing them?

In considering their achievements let not the yardstick be in terms of absolute progress.

Their era dawned as the sun was setting on South Africa's years of hope. We had begun the steep and rapid descent to racial madness.

The criterion of their success must be gauged against the rising tide of hysteria in the country and the constant and unprecedented assaults made on us from without.

The effects of constant pressure - financial and other - have made their mark on current official University policy.

Consequently, the essential support which all student leaders look for in their mentors was not forthcoming, and alone they tried to quell the surge of student reaction which is but a reflection of the "Baaskap Ideology" in which our country is being immersed.

It is perhaps natural that students should have followed the line of least resistance, and it is directly due to their efforts that the majority of students still fervently support the principle - at least - of academic non-segregation.

HERE LIES THEIR SUCCESS and here our loss.

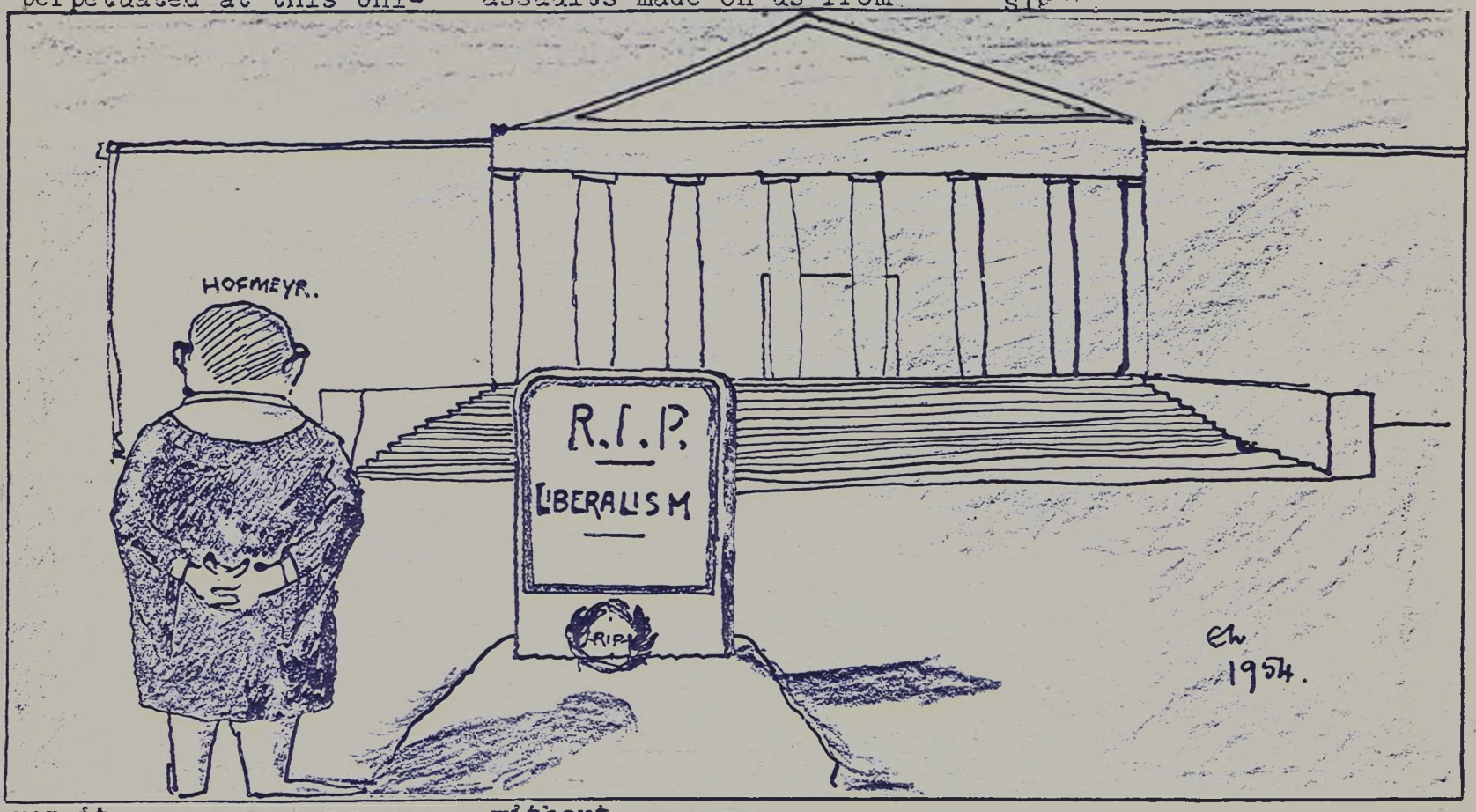
Despite their enduring fight, the first crumbling of the edifice so painstakingly built up have already appeared. It is a tragedy that at this critical time, there (with students divided, confused and uncertain) is no one of their calibre and status in sight.

They stood for an ideal. This is not an age of ideals.

The last pillar still remains for yet awhile.

What will happen WHEN GOLDSTEIN GOES.....!!!!

D. Rabinowitz.
M. Sorkin.
L.S. Taitz.



WESTDENE FOR MEDICAL BOOKS

1955 SUB-SOCIETY CHIEFS SAY.....

YOUR REFECTORY

Under the able guidance of my predecessor, Mr. Neil Schwartz, to whom I wish at the outset to pay warm tribute, it appears at this stage that the heavy losses of previous years will have been substantially reduced by the end of the current year. It is now up to the present committee, with your support and co-operation, to continue the good work and to attempt to convert the loss into a profit.

The committee consisting, as it does, of keen and enthusiastic workers, has pledged itself to do its utmost to achieve this aim. The members of the committee are:-

Secretary - Miss A. Goldman
Treasurer - Mr. N.W. Levin
Committee members- Messrs. N. Schwartz, D. Liknaitzky, J. Rudick and I. Borkowf.

In view of the ominous proximity of the examinations, and with them, the end of the academic year, the time available does not permit any drastic changes to be made this year. Ways and means of improving conditions at the Refectory have been fully discussed, and every attempt will be made to put some of them into practice at the beginning of next year. At this stage, no more can be said in this respect.

I would like to emphasize, as has no doubt been emphasized over and over again in the past, that the best committee in the world cannot run the Refectory efficiently without your wholehearted support. We shall do our best to please you, and to this end, invite constructive criticism at all times. Please do not hesitate to pass on any criticism or complaints that you may have to any member of the committee or myself.

For the pintable enthusiasts, we are trying to get another pintable. This is not an easy matter, as the companies concerned are not keen to let us have one, as their machines in the past have been maliciously damaged by those people who either like to play without paying, or have no respect for the property of others. Should we get another machine, and it suffers the same fate, it will certainly be the last.

In conclusion, I should like to wish you all every success in your examinations, and I look forward to seeing all those who come back next year in the Refectory. My thanks to those members of staff who regularly support us: I trust they will continue to do so in increasing numbers.

By S. Jacobson

CONFERENCE 1955

It is common knowledge that the subject for the 1955 Conference is PREGNANCY but it is doubtful whether the average student realises the amount of work that goes into the organisation of one of these well-organised events. One can obtain an idea of the amount of effort necessary in bringing a conference to fruition when one realises that before the PAEDIATRICS conference was held plans were well under way for the PREGNANCY conference.

In 1955 we hope to hold the most successful conference ever and critics of the PAEDIATRICS conference will be interested to hear that the conference is going back to its old date - namely very early in May, so that students may attend without their Exam consciences troubling them.

An important innovation for the PREGNANCY conference is that for the first time a Visiting Lecturer is being brought out from England with the prime intention of his participating in the Conference.

We cannot at this stage divilge the name of the Visiting Lecturer but it is one of the really big names in British Obstetrics.

In addition the cream of South African obstetricians will be participating and will read papers which will be invaluable to you in your study of Obstetrics.

As one can imagine, the work necessary in organising such a conference is going to be immense and the help of a large number of students is imperative if the conference isgoing to be a success. The more helpers we have the less the load on individual members of the Conference committee will be. The help of pre-clinical students is especially called for, because on them rests the responsibility of organising future conferences.

It will be appreciated if as many people as possible (especially those who can draw or make posters) will hand in their names at the S.M.C. Office or contact me personally.

Ian Blackstone
(4th Year)

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READERS VIEWS

Sir,

THE EDITORIAL in your most recent issue of "Auricle" contains some comment on the speech I made in reference to the motion reaffirming Student rights, which was brought before a General Meeting by S.R.C. President Dan Goldstein on Tuesday 10th August.

It would seem that I did not make it clear in my speech, as I wish to do through your columns now, that Dan Goldstein had my full support on the spirit of the motion; this I indicated to him several days before the matter came up for debate.

However, it is a principle that I hold dear that one must have certain rights, such as the freedom to worship and the freedom of speech; but I believe also that a right may be defined as the freedom to do as one ought, but not to do as one likes.

On the basis of this belief, I was prompted to oppose the passage of the third clause of Dan Goldstein's motion, which read:-

"The SRC shall at all times be free, on behalf of the student body, to express its views on any matter relating to the student body, and shall be free to express these views in any way it sees fit, even if these views are unacceptable to any individuals or organisations outside the SRC."

Now any thinking person must be perturbed, as I am, about the international war of ideas, and the race crisis in Africa. But I believe that the SRC is not to be used as a "progressive organisation" for the relief of race tension, because all that has been done in the past by the SRC in this respect is to cause division in our own ranks, without any POSITIVE effect on the national life.

The only answer is for us to get together in a spirit of cooperation, and to set our own house in order first. If we really do believe in progress, then we must get down to it and solve the problems of division and apathy within our own University before we can be fit to help solve problems on the national scale.

Yours etc.

R.W. Gresty

(The Editor regrets that Mr Gresty's letter arrived too late for publication in the last issue of the Auricle)

Sir,

For the last few months I have found it almost impossible to procure copies of "The Auricle" at Milner Park; so would you please let me know where I can obtain regular copies of "The Auricle". Alternatively do you accept subscriptions for "it"?

Trusting to hear from you soon!

Yours etc.

L.P. King

(An annual subscription for the Auricle will be instituted through the SRC and SMC Offices as from next year - Ed.)

Sir,

There are several rumours floating around about a group of Doctors who are working on a cure for T.B. I believe that they are using something called "Oxytheuroglobinema" which is very similar to "Properdin" that is being tested by the Americans to combat radiation sickness from atomic or Hydrogen bombs.

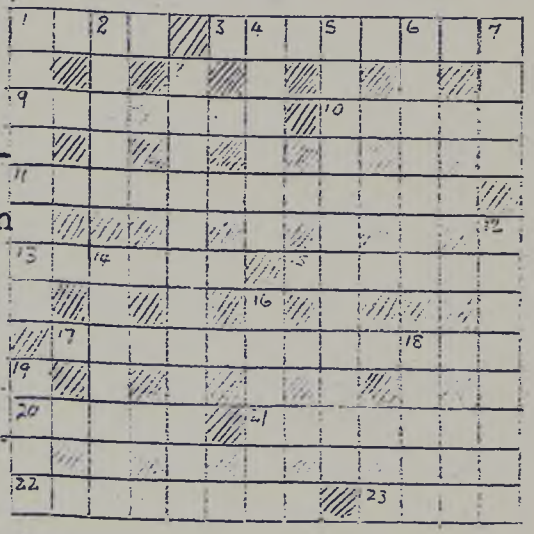
It appears that these tests have been carried out for sometime and are showing good results but are being kept secretive and unfortunately I have no further information.

Could you, with the help of Authorities throw light on these rumours please?

Yours etc.

Curious (Medical student)

Crossword



ACROSS

1. Loot - with jute? (4)
3. Takings or continues (8)
9. Leaves R, but shows all (7)
10. Valcano may be, when there's no negative (5)
11. Footloose & fancy free (12)
13. It is in the midelle and is sandy (6)
15. Behind - like a bird? (6)
17. Could this be an endless string of words for you? (4, 8)
20. He has 1 horn (5)
21. You 23 this - from moving? (7)
22. I damn not and therefore come out on top (8)
23. Touch (4)

DOWN

1. Cadge (8)
2. 207 in disarray (5)
4. The sorter goes on holiday (6)
5. Being polite is the first stage of social development (12)
6. From a Mediterranean island? (7)
7. Why? It makes the ledge look foolish! (4)
8. Not such hard work as it sounds but why always red (5,3,4)
12. "Inner alt" (anag) (8)
14. White metal named after the goddess of the rainbow (7)
16. I lower myself when the president of the faculty gets around me. (6)
18. I'm unaffected when I am in church (5)
19. Propagated (4)

IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO SUPPORT WESTDENE

SUN AND SHADE.

The year 1954 will go down as one of the most turbulent in the history of the University. Yet amidst the gathering storm-clouds there have been some important advances and much solid achievement.

At Medical School, particularly, we have seen distinct improvements and some welcome revivals and innovations. Outstanding, perhaps has been the progress of this paper. Today it can honestly be said to hold the premier position among our University publications. There will, however, be a strong challenge next year, we believe and hope, from those surgeons in metal and concrete down the hill. Let us hope that the atmosphere of bitterness and recrimination will give rise to a friendly and healthy rivalry, or even co-operation.

In other fields too one can report good pr gress. The revived Arch and Anthrop Society has grown into the most active, and one may say, the best sub-society at Medical School. The activity of the other sub-societies provide one of the year's main disappointments. This is not entirely the fault of the various committees. Various factors, including a most unsatisfactory system of time allocation and an excess of societies, together with a surfeit of general meetings, have all contributed to a rather barren cultural year. Student apathy too, has reached record depths.

This was particularly evident at Conference, which seems to be changing from a principally student affair into a symposium for practitioners. It is a pity that we did not take full advantage of something that was organised by students, primarily for students.

Thus we see that the main task ahead is the waking of the student body from its apathy and the re-organisation of cultural affairs.

Let us hope that the political climate will allow for the full flowering of the seeds sown in this year of promise and foreboding.

L.S.T

LET THE

REFECTORY CATER

FOR YOUR FIRM PART.

AROUND AND ABOUT.

Professor Watt Leaving Soon ..... Mr. Lee

McGregor retires from the hospital.

The Auricle congratulates Professor Watt who has been appointed to the EXPERT PANEL ON DRUGS LIABLE TO PRODUCE ADDICTION. This board is a section of the Division of Therapeutic substances of the "World Health Organisation" which is affiliated to U.N.O.

The Professor who is an expert on the narcotic effects of Dagga, will attend the 5th meeting of the Panel in October in Geneva, where he will act as advisor on this subject.

On interview, Professor Watt said that he would spend about 2 months on the Continent during which time he will also visit various Medical Schools and Manufacturing Chemists to which he has been invited. He will address students at Madrid University, whose methods of teaching Pharmacology are essentially the same as our own.

On the part played by the Panel he stated that it plays an important part in advising the WHO on the control of narcotics throughout the world.

We wish Professor Watt a successful and enjoyable trip.

.....

A most memorable occasion was witnessed recently in Ward 19. It was the occasion of the last ward-round before the retirment of Mr. Lee McGregor, after 25 years of hospital service.

Included among the many distinguished personages who had come to do Mr. McGregor honour were Professor Underwood, Professor of Surgery and Dean of the Faculty, Professor Boyd, V.L.T.F. Lecturer, Mr. Douglas, Senior Hospital surgeon; and many other notables of the Medical world.

We understand that Mr. Lee McGregor is soon to be given an honorary University post; thus we are hopeful that he will not sever <u>all</u> contact with our Medical School and students.

.....

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SHORT STORY :: CIRRHOSIS OF

Moment'. Before you rush home my poor married man, let me recite a tale that may perhaps improve your lot. Have you ever really seen your wife? Sure? Listen.

My tale begins with a ritual. Every morning at precisely 9.30, a certain Monsieur Henri Bendic dabbed his lower lip with serviette, rose swiftly from his chair, kissed his wife's brow and complete with chapeau and cane sailed out into Rue la Richè. She poor lady, each morning left to gaze at the warm but empty chair, sighed, smiled bitterly and inevitably cried, the tears skating over her soft, round cheeks and falling onto the elegant bosom. Lovely Madame Bendic for whose waist a thousand - no! ten thousand - no! the entire French army would have died gladly, wasting away, lost to a man who did not love - in fact did not even see her! Was he blind you ask. No! No! You see Madame was one of a collection to him. Given to him to - how you say - put on a shelf? You don't? - no matter. You know what I mean. He married her because it was right for a man in his position to marry, kissed her at the ceremony, and left her alone and palely loitering yes? She young, dressed in pale blue with a ribbon, alack yes a ribbon! in her hair; he suave, debonair, a man of the world. A curse on these man-made affairs. All matches should be made in heaven - you agree? Come, come my friend do not sigh. My tale has another meaning.

As the years passed this little bud blossomed right under the nose of Monsieur. But he idiot, treated her indeed as he did his antiques - a pat, a little dust to be brushed off the hungry lips - ah! charming. Au Revoir - I shall be back at ten, do not wait for me.

But enough of this. I must tell you how Monsieur came to appreciate his wife, not so? He was a magnificent drinker this man. If he did not love his wife, then he loved his cognac and it was his custom as he made his way along the Boulevarde to pause at a dozen or so small cafés, sip a cognac, maybe two, to fortify himself for the day's labours - pah! What labours do the rich know? - and finally enthrone himself behind a mahogany desk. Well the day of which I speak Monsieur was a little off colour. Slightly yellow, to be precise and as he made his way to café number one, a certain fellow, by name Beauchamp, a man who had never seen or heard of Monsieur Bendic but who resembled him so closely in face and build that had they stood together they may well have been taken for twins, wended his way in the opposite direction. Perhaps it was the hand of fate that drew them together. Perhaps it was the magnetic attraction that one liquor connoisseur has for another. More likely it was the rich cut of Monsieur Bendic's coat. Whatever the force in operation, the latter had hardly been perceived, than he was adeptly jostled and in less time than it takes me to tell, relieved of his wallet. Pieu! It was done. The two men were fifty yards apart and a large transaction had taken place. Perhaps it really was fate, for not five minutes later Henri Bendic, more jaundiced than ever, dropped in his tracks. Ah! Such is life. No! No! He was not dead.

Every auto in Paris rushes so who would notice an ambulance, hurrying its comatose patient to the nearest hospital. Certainly not Phillipe Beauchamp. He had eyes only for the lovely mesdemoiselles as they swayed their hips to the tune of a morning in spring and thoughts only for the little café which at this time of day inevitably housed his fellow philosophers - a place which served the finest wine in all France. What wine is not the finest when you drink with your dearest friends? Just off Boulevarde Michele, near the Pont, this side of Notre Dame turn left down Rue Du Pont, then immediately left again. You know it? Excellent! Then of course no need to explain how it was that two hours later Phillipe and his merry men relaxing in the shadow of many, many bottles round one of those old but large tables felt that they owed much to their unknown benefactor and drank yet another toast to his health. Ah! What bliss! What joy. But alas the bird of time was on the wing and flying a deal faster than any imagined for hardly had Phillipe swallowed the last drop of his third bottle than he half rose from one of those old but oh such comfortable chairs, turned to the nearest rosy cheeked friend, bewilderment in his eyes and collapsed.

Silence! Amazement! Consternation! After only three bottles! Phillipe you are growing old. But waste no time. Send for the ambulance!

You may find it difficult to believe that Phillipe was taken to the same hospital and put in the same ward where lay the unhappy Henri. But then of course you do not know Paris. Anything can happen in Paris. Where did you meet your wife Monsieur? There you see! Both strangers in a city of strangers but you met. Coincidence isn't it. You understand? Good - well then let us proceed with our story. Two gentlemen in a ward. One well dressed - alas no identification papers. The other, a little shabbier perhaps but an expensive wallet giving a highly respectable address. Exchange, put me through to Mon. 4611. Hurry.

Madame was young. She was beautiful. And wonder of wonders she was highly intelligent. What would I not have given- but enough of that. As she was led to the bed of M. Beauchamp she passed the bed where her husband lay and was about to cry out. "Here he lies!", when the surgeon gravely

WESTDENE FOR MEDICAL BOOKS

THE LIVER By RANA.

pointed to another bed and said, "There he lies." Far from exhibiting surprise the sagacious young lady hurried to the bedside discovered a man unmistakably like her husband but unmistakably not her husband, and throwing her arms around the unconscious man's neck exclaimed, "My poor, poor darling! How ill he looks! How changed he looks."

Let us not ponder the ways of women - we govern but they rule; we wage war but they are the strategists and tactitians. And M. Beauchamp was not the first man nor alas the last, to find himself pawn to the Queen's side. When finally he emerged from the depths to which his wine had dragged him, he found himself gazing up into the soft face of one whom he instantly took to be an angel in the garden of paradise and crossing himself profusely began to recite the rosary. It was at this point that Madame, who had hardly left the side of her "husband", urgently consulted the surgeon, suggested an immediate transfer of her poor darling to the more pleasant environs of his home and behold, before the surgeon himself had finally made a decision Phillipe found himself whisked off indeed as if in a dream to a real paradise. Here in the lap of luxury, surrounded by soft-footed maids and tended constantly by the angel himself - Phillipe earnestly addressed himself to the good Lord. Meanwhile let us not neglect the husband proper. His identification was a matter for the police. His suit was traced to a tailor of repute who recognised it as the property of one M. Bendic. The police officer reported back to his superior and was sent to another station without delay. The sister, the matron, the intern and the surgeon were consulted. Could madame have made a mistake? Impossible!! Another officer, promoted recently for his tact and broad understanding of the human race was appointed to the task of unravelling the mystery.

"Madame", said he, "your husband....". "Ah. quite well" replied the lady, more charming than ever before, a gentle blush on her cheek and a sparkle in her eye. "Not quite up to seeing visitors, you know. So kind of you to enquire Monsieur le Prefect. Join me in a cup of coffee. Of course you will. Are you a married man? Why of course you are. Children?"

M. Inspector although distressed by the nature of his business, left in the best of spirits assured that Monsieur's health was greatly improved, that the good lady was delighted with his progress and that Monsieur was in all particulars the best of husbands.

It was spring. All Paris was gay and carefree. Not so the Inspector or the man who had returned from the dead to confirm that the tailor had not lied, that he was indeed M. Henri Bendic, that this was preposterous, that he was a citizen and demanded his rights and his wife, and why did they not send for her and he would go to the Minister of Health, the Minister of Security, the Prime Minister and .....

The Inspector called again. This time he came directly to the point. Another man claiming to be her husband. Ridiculous! Indeed, but would madame kindly come -. No! What utter nonsense. I must ask madame to reconsider. This is incredible. Yes - yes, quite, but I must insist. Very well then, but remember if this is a fool's errand I shall go to the Prefect. And I mean Prefect!

"Marie - thank God", screamed M. Bendic when madame stood framed in the doorway.

"An extraordinary likeness", exclaimed Madame. Henri slid back into a lying position.

"An extraordinary likeness! Marie ! Are you mad?"

"Has he any identification papers?" asked Madame of the surgeon. Beads of perspiration stood out on the sick man's forehead.

"Identification papers! Marie! I'm your husband, your Henri. Don't you know me. Come - come here! Look! The mole on my back! The scar on my stomach - Marie!

"I don't recall having had the pleasure of seeing a mole on your back, nor have I had occasion to examine a scar on your front," replied Madame coldly. At this the doctor drew a deep breath. He turned to the Inspector, and he found the same light of comprehension dawning in that good man's eye. Without further ado they withdrew together closing the door softly behind them. Women! Women!

The interview between man and wife lasted an hour and at the end of that time Madame reappeared.

"Monsieur le Docteur," she cried, "a terrible mistake. I cannot explain. It is to be understood there must be complete silence about this whole affair. The wife of a Parliamentarian. Horrible - too horrible. "That other man " she turned to the inspector a high colour mounting her cheeks, - "no action must be taken". "Of cour," said the Inspector. Madame surveyed the scene, regarded the moment appropriate, and fainted.

Naturally M. Bendic recovered. He was returned to his home as soon as M. Beauchamp, suitably remunerated for the inconvenience caused could be slipped secretly out into the night. I was over a glass of milk that Henri first came to notice his wife's waist. Having noticed the waist, the rest soon followed. They are an ideal couple now - believe me, the envy of a multitude of bickering husbands and wives. Ah! such is life. One small drink from the secret well and then I must hurry home to my wife.

And you Monsieur? Go home and look carefully at your wife please.

Is it not possible that her name may also be Marie?

WESTDENE FOR WELCH ALLYN DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT

Medical Ethics :: FEES ::Prof. G.A.Elliott.

"A doctor must not allow himself to be influenced merely by motives of profit". - International Code of Ethics.

On entering practice for the first time, the doctor may well find his greatest difficulties are not those concerning the diagnosis and treatment of his patients, but are to do with fees.

He should enquire from the local branch of the Medical Association concerning the usual fees in the area in which he is practising. He can also find out the tariffs of fees of recognised Benefit Societies. The Medical Council does not issue a tariff of fees, but is the body which by law has to enquire into complaints of overcharging.

The difficulties concerning fees are not solved merely by reading the tariffs. It is accepted that higher fees than usual can be charged by senior members of the profession on account of their greater experience, or in cases of unusual difficulty. It is also accepted that to charge a "composite fee" is not undercutting; a composite fee is one that adds up to less than the total that would have been charged for attendance during an illness if each visit and injection were charged for at tariff rates. It is neither unethical nor illegal to refrain from reducing the total to a composite fee. The average doctor frowns on the practice of not charging a composite fee in cases in which a large number of visits have been paid during one illness.

There have been many legal arguments over the definition of the word "excessive" in relation to fees. £3. 3. 1 is an excess over £3. 3. 0., and yet the former fee would not be regarded as excessive over the latter. A fee more than 50% above the "usual" fee is generally regarded as excessive for purposes of assessment in complaints of overcharging.

An "extortionate" fee is one in which the doctor adopts the "money or your life" attitude; the doctor who informed the father whose infant child had died suddenly that he would provide a death certificate for £3, reminding the father that the child really ought to go to the police mortuary, was guilty of extortion (amongst other crimes).

A doctor must, by law, furnish an itemised account if so requested by the patient.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT DOCTORS' FEES are made by patients for a number of reasons. They may honestly believe that they have been overcharged. They may be annoyed with the doctor, and their complaint about his fee is an attempt to "get their own back". They may be annoyed at receiving letters of demand from the doctor for failing to pay their account. They may be seeking notoriety. They may adopt complaining of the doctor's account as a means of persecuting their wife in a public enquiry!

The patient who honestly believes that he has been overcharged will usually approach the doctor in connection with the account, and after discussion the patient may see the reasonableness of the account or the doctor may agree to reduce it. If the method of approaching the doctor is not adopted by the patient, he may complain to the S.A. Medical and Dental Council. Once the Council has received a complaint, it must by law refer the complaint to the doctor for an explanation; in nine cases out of ten, the explanation of the doctor is accepted and no further action is taken. In the occasional case, the Council holds an enquiry, which under the present law, must be public. It is hoped that the procedure will shortly be modified by amending legislation which is now before Parliament.

It is common practice not to charge fees for services rendered to doctors and their dependents and to registered nurses. Some doctors include amongst their pro deo practice dentists and ministers of religion. There is no consistent practice concerning the charging of fees to medical students. If there is a Student Medical Benefit Society, some doctors accept no more than the Society tariff rate, others ask that the difference between the tariff rate and their usual fee be made up by the student. Where there is no Benefit Society, some doctors charge no fees to any medical students, whilst others have a sliding scale dependent on the stage in training reached by the student - first and second years charged full fees, third to fifth years charged half fees, and final years charged no fees! The usual custom is to charge no fees.

Does a doctor sue for fees? The answer is yes, if he wishes to. Many doctors will not sue, writing the account off as a bad debt if two or three courteously worded letters fail to result in a settlement.

Should a doctor demand payment in advance? This practice does happen, more particularly in regard to surgical operations. It is not strictly an unethical practice.

Should a doctor charge a higher than usual fee to a wealthy patient? Some doctors do and some do not. It is, however, just as unethical to charge a wealthy patient an excessive fee as a patient of moderate means.

Above all, remember that a fee is a reward for service, but it is the service that is the greatest reward.

ALTHOUGH YOUR EDITORS HAVE LEFT NO ROOM IN THIS ISSUE FOR WESTDENE WHO PRINTED THIS WESTDENE PRODUCTS ALWAYS HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM FOR YOU IN THEIR SHOWROOM. DO CALL ON THEM AND LOOK AROUND.

THE PASSING PARADE.



Ever heard of the game "Scrabble"? Neither had we until we were peremptorily introduced to it, by that great (unofficial) SCRABBLER, GODFREY S. GETZ.

Quite a champ at the game too is Godfrey - ably aided and abetted by HIS FAVOURITE GIRL FRIEND Lorraine C.

Briefly our game consisted of 3 pairs vieing with each other in ability to BUILD A CROSSWORD with 7 randomly-picked letters of the alphabet.

Playing with great aplomb and assurance, Godfrey easily outwitted us, proving adroit at thinking in 3D and using his limited forces (7 letters) with a keen sense of tactical judgement.

Despite this great PROWESS, however, we feel that Mr. Getz's contribution to THE PASSING PARADE is not entirely dependent on the existence of the game scrabble.

Perhaps Godfrey - who qualifies at the end of the year - will best be remembered as THE CHAMPION OF STUDENT RIGHTS at this University for the past 7 years.

In the course of a 3 year reign as STUDENT LEADER, Getz never veered from a course of fighting every inch of the way for the maintenance of the principles he held dear.

During the crisis which followed the University's decision to limit the number of Wits non-European Medical students "due to lack of clinical facilities", Getz refused to be intimidated, showing INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL SELFLESSNESS which has and will continue to serve as a beacon of encouragement to his successors in the battle to keep Wits free.

Getz was the man who BURST THE SAMSU BUBBLE, seeing through its carefully concealed evil motives.

Neither in the ACADEMIC FIELD has Godfrey proved a sluggard. 2nd year saw him as an active and virile new S.R.C. member still finding time to chalk up a top 1st in Anatomy. Since then 1sts and 2nds have been LIBERALLY SPRAYED along his academic path.

A Medical B.Sc. Godfrey will long be remembered as the man who BROKE NEW GROUND by being the first STUDENT SPEAKER ever at the Conference which graces our Medical School each year. Indeed, his paper on Diabetes Mellitus was hailed by the knowledgeable as a redoubtable affair.

, KEY INTEREST POINT for Getz in the field of science at the moment is SMOOTH MUSCLE on which he is working for his Honours degree.

EARLY LIFE is very much shrouded in MYSTERY. A product of King Edwards, Johannesburg he was one of the PIONEERS OF A.M.S.T.F., and is a PAST EDITOR OF AURICLE (puts him into the correct mould!) Also saw service on the S.M.C. and went onto the Executive at a very TENDER AGE.

The fatal day WHEN GETZ GOES has been hanging very much like the sword of Damocles on the heads of those whose common interest is the freedom of this University.

While Getz was there, there was sound judgement, there was firm policy, there was SECURITY.

The big - almost massive-figure of Getz striding confidently to address a meeting, to defend students' rights, to uphold freedom, was our bulwark against appression.

The fatal day when Getz goes is now but two short months away. Our hope lies in the inspiration that Godfrey leaves behind him in the Passing Parade.

D.R.

3rd Years Shine.

The Third Year Medical students are to be congratulated for their truly magnificent support rendered at the Alexandra Health Clinic over the past 3 months.

All in all, 13,000 African children have been innoculated against the infectious diseases small pox, diptheria, and typhoid. It was an enormous task - and an important one, and the way in which they tackled the problem is most commendable.

When Dr. Schneir called for volunteers, the response was excellent and forty-four were prepared to sacrifice their Wednesday mornings for this noble cause. Dr. Schneir is engaged in trying to decrease the infant mortality in Alexandra Township, and what a success he is making of it. His efforts in the future are to be confined mainly to the real killer of our native children - summer diarrhoea. Dr. Schneir expresses his profound thanks - and so, I am sure, do the mothers out at Alexandra, for the fine effort.

Well done 3rd years! You have won the exteem of many - and worthily so!

THIS HILL OF OURS.

The name is Duggan with 2 "G's". "What's he like?" I asked the girls in the outer office. They clicked their tongues in approval. "Tall, dark and handsome - but married". Well that's a fine introduction to our NEW REGISTRAR.

Born Cape Town 1921 Mr. Duggan began his part-time B.A. course in Snoektown and then he married, came up to daar old JHB and went to work as a civil servant - "you know those regulations which are printed in gazettes every now and then - those things written in language which is not understandable? I'm one of the blokes who translated them into the not understandable language. But I grew tired of asking my immediate superior if I could move a comma from one line to the next and when I saw this job advertised - ".

Mr. Duggan has a B.A. (majored in Political Science and Economics) and is busy on his M.A. thesis. And when he is done with interviewing the President of the S.M.C., Auricle reporters, working out if it's possible for students to have a meeting in the Harveian, drawing up timetables etc., etc., he goes home to his wife and year-old son to worry about - "Development Planning in East Africa".

Good luck with the thesis, Mr. Duggan. We're glad indeed to have you with us.

* * *

This was a year for the SOROKINS now wasn't it? First there was PAPA Sorokin who was one of the patients for Prof. Boyd's Clinic. The old man came in quietly, answered questions directly, lay still while he was palpated, oscollometied etc., and then quietly left. A MODEL PATIENT. Of course SOROKIN JNR. didn't attend the clinic but he had his day.

It was the occasion of MR. MCGREGOR'S LAST official ward ROUND in Ward 19. Prof. Boyd was there. Prof. Underwood, Mr. Douglas Mr. Lannon and a host of other V.I.P.'s. It was Mick's patient and he presented the case and he did so very well. At the end of an hour Mr. McGregor turned to Mick graciously and said "It would be very flattering to think that all these important people had come here just to listen to you and I discuss arthritis, wouldn't it?" Of course they hadn't. They had come to pay tribute to the great man. But don't think Mick didn't have his moments. He certainly did. I don't think I will ever forget ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS. It was about half-way through. Mr. McGregor turned to Mick and said, "Now tell us, Is the pathology in the hip-joint, is it in the structures around the hip joint? Or where is it?" - and he raised his eyebrows and cocked his head as is his custom. Of course Mick knew very well where the pathology lay. But he decided to ponder the question.

Many new facts had been brought to light during this "discussion" with Mr. McGregor. There were new angles to be considered. Mick wasn't going to rush into a diagnosis - he is that sort of a guy. So while he worked out the permutations with combinations everybody waited. Mr. McGregor on the left-hand side of the bed, Mr. Sorokin on the right. All the surgeons and registrars and housemen and sisters and the staff-nurses and nurses and probationers and the students (in that order) waited while Sorokin, unhurried gazed gravely at his patient.

I will always remember that moment. I can see them now, standing in an orderly half-circle quietly waiting for Mr. Sorokin to pronounce judgement. Yes Sir, it was quite a year for the Sorokins.

- BUDRA

The Librarian Says

The most important item of library news for students is the arrival of the 1953-54 examination papers, bound and ready for consultation in the library. Those students who work on a system of spotting questions will be glad to have all the necessary data, and others will at least have a new set of questions to work through. As there are only two copies, it is advisable for students to copy out the questions of interest to them, so that as many people as possible may have an opportunity of consulting this vital work.

Two copies of the new edition (1954) of Payling - Wright: Introduction to Pathology have just been received. Students who want to see this book should ask to have their names put on the waiting list as soon as possible.

A.C. Dick

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD

Across: 1. Sack 2. Proceeds 9. Reveals 10. Vocal 11. Uncontrolled 13. Gritty 15. Astern 17. Life sentence 20. Rhino 21. Emotion 22. Dominant 23. Feel

Down: 1. Scrounge 2. Civic 4. Resort 5. Civilisation 6. Excrete 7. Sill 8. Paint the town 12. Internal 14. Iridium 16. Demean 18. Naive 19. Bred.

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WESTDENE FOR WELCH ALLYN DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT

Diary Of A Dilettante.

Popped up to see Daphne Steyn the other day - she and her husband (a doctor) live in a flat just round the corner. Daphne gave up her 2nd year M.B.B.Ch studies last term as she was expecting a baby- and on Wednesday the 18th of August at 10.30 p.m. she gave birth to a baby girl weighing 8 lb 2 oz. What a cute little baby she is - her name's Anne - I do wish you could see her!

Dr. Steyn intends specialising in Surgery so they leave for England this coming February - and Daphne will take up her studies again. I'm sure we all wish her lots and lots of success!

Battle of the Bulge

The study of "Nutrition" was started this week in 2nd physiology and as part of our work we all had to make careful note of what we ate for 5 consecutive days - with a view to analysing amount of CHO, Proteins, fat mineral salts and vitamins received each day - and last but not least - COLORIES. I was horrified to find how insidiously they mount up. Avocado pear, my favourite food, has more calories in ½ a pear than have 3 eggs! It's a relief to find that a tot of Whisky has only 106 calories. Anyway I religiously worked out my diet until the cocktail party on Saturday. Was completely stumped because I found

(a) Had sampled just about everything.
(b) Hadn't kept count of how many times I'd sampled.

Was faced with a list which ran something like this:-

Two? pickled onions and half a toothpick
1 slice gherkin
Three? prunes stuffed with cream chees and olives and chopped nuts.
2 mushroom patties
Another patty with something indescribable inside.
½ a sausage roll (other ½ is probably still hidden behind the flower pot)
Umpteen handsful of peanuts and twigs.

In desperation I allocated a few hundred calories or so to this little lot and honed for the best.

Successful Dance

Believe the Medical Spring Ball was a success this year - unfortunately I couldn't go. They tell me that everything went smoothly except for some minor mishap with a fire extinguisher!

The Engineer's Ball will probably be the last big Social function of the University year - it takes place on the 8th October.

And talking about the Engineers, a whole crowd of them were up here a few weeks ago selling the latest edition of "Torque". I must certainly congratulate them - but still think that there is little that can better the Auricle.

Must rush off and weigh myself. So cheerio for now

Marilyn

(Sport continued from page 12)

namely Perlman and Lange.

To turn to the summer sports, let me wish the cricket club the best of luck in its bid to retain the Lionel Phillips Championship - and may we even hope for the Transvaal League title this year. The keenness of the members of this club is even now apparent, and it is quite possible that both the hopes expressed above will be fulfilled.

In conclusion, let me wish all clubs the best of luck in the coming season, and may they play the game in the true Wits manner. Furthermore, I wish my successor the best of luck, and may he too, have happy sport ahead of him, in the playing and the watching.

- A. Joffe

[Retiring Sports Editor on the 1954 AURICLE]

WESTDENE FOR QUALITY

Sporting Profiles.

As this is the last issue of the Auricle this year instead of bringing the sporting spotlight to focus on one particular personality, let's take a look round and see, in brief resumé, how some of our Medical School stars fared during the year.

Starting off with cricket 3 outstanding personalities immediately spring to mind, namely Dr. Freddie Herbst, Peter Leigh and Clive Ulyate These 3 never let the Wits team down and played major roles in our wonderful Lionel Phillips victory. Watch out for Peter Leigh! He is only 18 and we can expect big things from him this season.

In the world of tennis Neville Katzen has completely dominated men's University tennis in South Africa and has proved a most capable Chairman of the Wits tennis club. Keep a lookout for three 1st year physiotherapists, namely Evelyn Puler, Pat Emanuel and Musha Bacher, all 3 of whom figured in the club's women's doubles final this year!

Coming on to Athletics we remember seeing Brian Peer's name often in the papers. Nice work Brian! And Let's not forget Galena Kotze's great shot-put record at intervarsity.

Dr. Herbst again figures prominently when we think of rugby. Let's overlook his somewhat indifferent performances at times and remember only his brilliant ones which makes him the greatest full-back in the country.

The title of sport's star of the year must undoubtedly go to Zan de Villiers. Her hockey performances have been out of this world and were very nicely capped with Springbak colour. Congrats to you Zan!

- Manfred Puler

THE YEARS SPORTING ROUND-UP

As this is the last Auricle of the year, I think it is fitting to review briefly the year's sporting activities. Wits, this year, led ups and downs in all sports. In every branch of sport, there were more unexpected upsets, in both winning and losing vein, than have occurred for some years.

RUGBY

Dealing first with Rugby, I have often stated during the year, that this side kept its talents for the top clubs - and that only on occasion. In some games, notably their first match against Diggers, a high score was registered against them, but this did not show the true trend of the game. In other games, e.g. against West Rand, and E.R.P.M. in the first round at any rate, it was a mystery to spectators as to how 'Varsity were not beaten by a considerably bigger margin. But, keeping the good wine till last, we recall for example, the match against Wanderers, where Wits really played open, fast, exhilarating and at times brilliant Rugby. However, even at the risk of appearing monotonous, let me reiterate once more - the really bad characteristic of the Wits game this season was the shocking tackling - or lack thereof - to the sight of which we were (mal)treated every week at one stage of the season.

To come to individual players, the Captain, Dr. Freddie Herbst started the season in really brilliant fasion, recalling the glories of the previous season when he so narrowly missed a Springbok Cap. However, the deterioration in his play was swift, at at one time he was exceedingly fortunate not to lose his place in the Wits team. Lately, an improved performance has occurred at almost each successive match, and he seems to have regained the above-mentioned form. This has but to be maintained, to ensure Freddie a place in the Springbok sides next winter.

Joe Kaminer, in the centre, also a Transvaal player, was the steadiest of the backs; if he improves next year as he did this year, he too will make a strong bid for Springbok honours. Of the other backs, Clive Ulyate had a very erratic season, and at last was displaced from fly half by Tev Pienaar, who played excellent football, being the safest tackler in the side on many an occasion.

Mike Garms, who has now left for Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship, was another who was very erratic. Tom Esbach never let the side down, and Hugh Lyell had appeared in only one match for Wits 1st team, and was immediately selected as reserve for Transvaal. Both he and Louis Kaminer were selected to tour N. Rhodesia with the Northern Universities Team. Des Catterall amazed all by not having to leave the field through injury on the occasions he played 1st XV.

It would be invidious to pick out individual forwards from a pack that played so well against far heavier teams. However, the three forwards who were selected for the Northern Varsities Team must be mentioned. Johnny Mentjes, a fine lock, is unfortunate in not having a little more weight. His magnificent line-out play was a feature of almost every game. Theo Lombard, the vice-Captain, in the unenviable position of front-rank, had a very good season, but in my opinion is wasted in this position. He played an excellent game at No. 8, against West Rand last week, and at E.R.P.M. on Saturday. Unfortunately, he was taken from the field concussed, last Saturday. Manny Zar, who was a regular reserve for Transvaal throughout the season, was one of the main try-scorers of the team. It will be remembered that he scored all three tries against U.C.T. early in the season. However, he is apparently too keen, for he has given away far too many points in free kicks and penalties, for goind off-side etc. in front of the posts. If he can rid himself of this failing, he will go far".

JUNIOR TEAMS

Most of the junior teams had satisfactory seasons, but for the under 19. As I wrote earlier, it is expected of this team that they will put up the best performance of all. This season, they fell far short of this standard. Even though they have won most of their recent matches, their play has not been the delight to watch that it has been in previous years. And this is a pity, both in itself, and as a pointer to the future of Varsity Rugby generally. Let us hope that a better show be put up next season, on both these scores. Only one player in this team could command a regular place in the Transvaal under 19 team, namely Grant. Others who played were fine, who was beset by injury for most of the season, Shirley, and Zylstra.

To deal with some other sports at this stage, we may mention Hockey. Men's hockey this year, in the 1st team, at any rate, has not been blessed with much luck. Not long ago the team won its first match, and quickly followed this by winning two in succession. Unfortunately, this effort was too late, and the team finished the season bottom of the Transvaal league.

However, sustaining the effort at the right time, the team managed to defeat Balfour Park, in the promotion-relegation play-off, by 1-0, and have thereby assured themselve of their place in the Premier League next season. The Wits A team, i.e. the 2nd team, did well to finish high in their league. They would have been unbeaten, but the calls of the 1st team deprived them of some key players at unfortunate times. A number of players of this club were chosen for the Protea's tour of Europe during the coming long vacation,

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