



THE AURICLE

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS' MEDICAL COUNCIL

AUGUST, 1935.

CRITICISM AND OUR CURRICULUM.

Criticism is undoubtedly one of the most widely practised of human arts. Everything is criticised, Mussolini, the present government, the university, the hospital, the staff, the *Leech*, the second year course, and even Mrs. Magee's special peaches and cream. These criticisms are inevitable; they merely provide an enjoyable occupation; they serve to arouse interest in certain subjects but generally their presence is of small significance. If we analyse them, we find that they are instinctive reactions of like or dislike which have been elevated to the dignity of criticisms. They involve a minimal amount of thought and the majority are uttered loudly and forcibly on the spur of the moment. Excellent examples of instinctive reaction are to be found in some of the recent letters to the editors of our daily newspapers, or you may hear them whenever two or more medical students are gathered together. It is important for us to realize that although they are offered as considered judgments, the bulk of them are expressions of personal opinion and relative to the present psychological phase of the individual expressing the criticism. One example will suffice to make my meaning clear. An individual happens to be repelled by a certain method employed by scientists to investigate disease; he immediately and instinctively passes judgment on the principle of the method as bad. Having got thus far and formed a conclusion, he proceeds to find arguments to justify his instinctive dislike. In the same way a student proclaims a curriculum good or bad.

Although this type of criticism is always with us and need not concern us overmuch, it happens sometimes that a bulk of criticism is gradually concentrated on one subject and it begins to assume some significance. One such subject is the medical curriculum, and this has been receiving world-wide attention. Out of this babbling of many tongues we hope that some day in some manner good may come.

With regard to our own curriculum, we find that every aspect of the course, at some time and by some section, has been criticised adversely (any favourable criticism is indicated by silence). Admittedly many of these criticisms are true, but we should remember that ours is a young school gradually finding its way. Because we have not followed slavishly the methods and organisation of the old-established English or Scottish schools, we do not enjoy the feelings of ease, comfort and security which are enjoyed by a school further to the south, which, though only a few years older, has adopted these traditional methods. Comfort and security do not always lead to distinction.

Our present feelings of dissatisfaction, expressed by a multitude of criticisms, are indications of evolution.

Unfortunately, only a few of these criticisms are the results of rational consideration, and an infinitesimal part are constructive. The few that are of value are completely hidden by the many that are instinctive reactions, destructive and contradictory. They cancel each other out and therefore are valueless. Unfortunately, too, they are usually presented in a wrong manner, and through the wrong channels. The second year episode is one unfortunate example of the futility of these methods.

An obvious solution is to have these criticisms thoroughly investigated by a student body, whose duty it would be to pick out those that are representative, rational and constructive, and to present these through the correct channels. Whenever this has been done in the past, we have received every consideration and even encouragement from those in authority.

It is the realization of this fact which has led the S.M.C. to appoint a curriculum committee to analyse any criticisms and suggested improvements which are submitted to the council. Undoubtedly, their task will be a difficult one, but we dare to hope for some concrete results in the near future.

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TAKEN FOR A RIDE.

We find in literature that titles to some stories convey absolutely no indication as to what the narrative is about. But this not being exactly literature, the title is the main clue to the story.

The phrase is used with different meaning in various parts of the world. Thus, when you are taken for a ride by our American cousins, it means that you are about to be gathered unto your forefathers or, as sometimes stated, they take you for a lengthy journey, e.g., from here to Cape Town and back.

We all know about trips, tours, journeys and motor runs undertaken by people daily, and it is the ambition of many a man to see the world before he finally leaves it. Few things are more enjoyable than a moonlight drive even though the distance may be short.

In recent years, however, the term "taken for a ride" has been applied locally to trips and journeys undertaken not by cars, boats, etc., nor does the moonlight make your ride more enjoyable. As a matter of fact, no internal combustion engine is made use of at all, although combustion does sometimes occur externally.

All that is needed for your conveyance is a bicycle-pack, consisting of fifty-two parts, i.e., from the ace downwards. Of these parts the most formidable looking are the four bullets, by which many a man has been killed financially, although the other instruments when harmonised are just as capable of taking you for a lengthy ride.

Klüberjas, a beautiful vehicle with thirty-two working parts, was invented many many years ago. It is even believed that the wise King Solomon had taken Queen Sheba for a ride in a similar model on that memorable occasion when he made "stoch." For those who do not know the latter term, it will be sufficient to say that "stoch" means to get in the last word, which is most unusual for a man, but nevertheless history cannot be doubted. The cruising speed of this model is between 162-282 miles per deal.

A strange five-seater vehicle consisting of the bicycle pack *in toto*, known as the "Poker-Bluff" combination, has taken men for some of the longest journeys known to history. It looks, in fact, like "Noah's Ark," which consisted mostly of pairs, and when you consider that "pairs" so often become "threes," Noah must indeed have had a "full house."

I have just described two models whereby you are taken for a ride. But you don't really move an inch, excepting perhaps to change chairs for luck; it is your money, in fact, which changes place, and it is remarkable with what speed it can leave you, and how far it can get away from you.

For circular tours, however, such vehicles are not very suitable, and man has had to resort to

animals for your conveyance, and for this purpose the equine series has been adapted for your convenience. Dogs, too, especially greyhounds, will suitably take you for circular tours round the "Wanderers"—so much for rides.

As these lines are written for a medical publication, I think that it would not be out of place to give some signs and symptoms of those passengers who become severely ill after a ride in any one of the above described vehicles.

"Itchiness" is a prominent feature prior to the ride, and the tourist is, as a rule, in the best of "spirits" and sound financially.

The most severe after effects usually follow on a gallop even though the distance may only be a few furlongs. The passenger usually becomes mentally distressed, and suicide is not an uncommon complication of a circular tour. In a number of instances homicide has followed a dishonest Poker-Bluff combination ride. In a percentage of these cases five bullets have been found in the "bicycle."

It is a remarkable fact that musicians, i.e., those who play by music, show very severe symptoms after a ride; the same can be said to apply to those who suffer naturally from cold feet. The former's "calling" entails soft peddling which might have something to do with the after effects. Cerebral anaemia, with circumoral pallor is sometimes present. But the most severe and constant feature of all is "nomoneya." The high pitched notes, which these "musicians" take at the outset of a ride, has been ascribed to an orchidectomy performed on a previous tour, and this may aid in the diagnosis of the condition. It is well to remember that the patient becomes less susceptible after he has been taken for several journeys. The prognosis in such cases is always good. The treatment consists of a "silver-gold" preparation, which is given once monthly in the form of circular discs. According to some authorities, the coating of these discs with "notes" has a very beneficial effect, and the "nomoneya" clears up immediately.

Mental disorders of a permanent nature sometimes occur. False perception is a common feature. The patient might mistake a donkey for a horse, a fox-terrier for a greyhound, or even while looking at a "diamond" he thinks its a "spade." Some have even changed their "calling," for lack of concentration. There is a well-known song written by a soldier after a circular tour round the Wanderers:

I backed a greyhound to sky
With pounds shillings and pence
Made it run, made it race against time (still running).

This is just an example of the work they are capable of turning out, even when suffering from such mental disorders.

—H.J.N.

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ON AUSCULTATION.

WE FIND:—

THAT *The Leech* has been receiving a lot of undesirable publicity in the newspapers recently.

THAT we sympathise with the second-year students in the matter of anthropometric instruments, but we are sure the matter could have been amicably settled had the protest been directed through the correct channels, namely, the Students' Medical Council.

THAT *The Leech* is one more place that has come under the sway of Dictatorship (of a Triumvirate), according to the ex-Secretary of the S.M.C.

THAT we have a strong suspicion that no provision has been made in the New Hospital plans for students' common room, etc.

THAT we wonder what steps have been or are going to be taken, before it is too late to make alterations.

THAT the fourth-years appear to be overwhelmed by a ceaseless round of lectures.

THAT the University students at last are beginning to show signs of life.

THAT we welcome the arrival of a new *Wu's Views* and note with pleasure the interest shown in Medicals.

THAT the whole School has been plunged into despair as a result of it having been "proved" that we do not belong to a profession.

THAT the Semi-Annual General Meeting was a model of business-like efficiency and of steam-roller tactics.

THAT we would like to associate ourselves with the regret that has been expressed at the resignation of our Vice-Chairman and Secretary, "Fuzzy" and "Fatty," after many years of unselfish activity on behalf of the School.

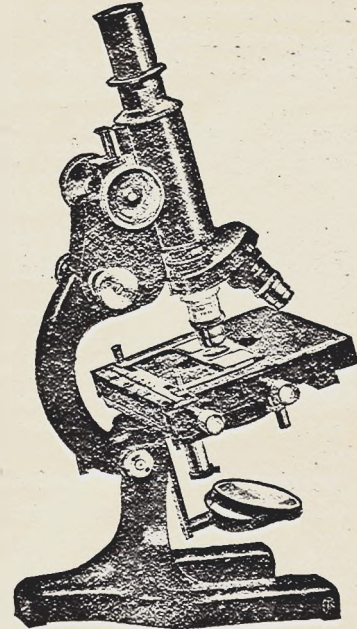
THAT we hope next year will see them both among the active members of the Post-Graduate Society.

THAT the Medical School building remains an eyesore, and that it lacks the aesthetic charm of another unfinished article—the Unfinished Symphony.

THAT we are progressing—at last the University authorities are *considering* the question of beautifying the front of the Medical School; perhaps something might even be *done* about it.

THAT our Society activities are being handicapped by exam-phobia which has brought in its wake a large number of resignations.

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THE SECOND BOOK OF MEDICOS.

Chapter I.

1. Now it came to pass that the men that sit in the high places of the council, that is of the Medicos, bethought them of their manifold sins, and the manner of their thought was thus, yea have we not been exceeding active, have we not done many and great things?

2. Now lest those that have set us in these high places think that we are a proud and stiff-necked generation, and lest they cast us down from our exalted positions, yea, even by the scruffs of our necks, let us rather go to them in all humility showing to them all our deeds, how good they be, and let us plead that they think well of us; thus may we be even more powerful and thus may we add power to our elbow.

3. And he that is highest among all those that are high in the high places of the council, that is of the Medicos he that is likened by some to Muss, the son of Lini, and by others to Sta, the son of Lin, spake thus, *Gentlemen we must call a general meeting.*

4. And he that is of the blood of the Irish, that are called by some mad, wrought mightily with his chalks upon the wall and his writings, of many and wondrous colours even as was the coat of Joseph, did summon forth the tribe Medicos.

5. And it came to pass on a day which is called by the God of Thunder that all the children of Raymon, he that is likened to a spear, came together in one place, and that place was the scene of many battles between the all-conquering Archie and the barbarians called Budding-Pathologists.

6. Now when they were all in the one place, save only the grey-haired warriors who were gathered around one, Woolf, and worshipped yet a while at the altar of the god called Physiotherapeutics, he that is highest among the high, whose name was Sid, raised up his voice and spake unto the Medicos of many and strange things.

7. Seated upon his right hand was one Schultz, he that dabbleth with small pieces of copper, silver and gold, yet crieth ever that he hath not wherewithal to pay his debtors, and seated upon his left side was a woman who outshone all others in her

beauty, yea, verily she was beautiful and the blushes rose gently over her cheeks and she was exceeding industrious.

8. Then came one who is loved greatly by those that are called Medicos albeit he is feared by those that live in the valley of the second year and fight with strange weapons that are called by some Essential Anthropological Equipment. Yea verily did he speak.

9. And sometimes it was with the voice of thunder and again it seemed that a dove called, and yet again the words fell sweet as honey.

10. And they that were gathered together in that place felt within them that here truly spake the Grand Old Man of the Medical School.

11. And they fell once again under the spell of the Father of the Medicos, and having spoken his heart was full within him and the Medicos saw him no more.

12. Then was it reported that one Leech had sucked the blood and poisoned the entrails of that suckling babe which is called the Medical Fund, and a band of worthy men was appointed to guard over the monster lest he be guided by the three dictators and continue in its ways that are evil.

13. Now he that is called Sid, likewise Ney, brought with him a strange weapon, like even to that weapon which the C.E.D. use to make straight those paths which are not flat, and with this weapon did he pass many motions even as do the sick, and all men quailed and non dared to say him nay.

14. And he did levy taxes even unto pieces of copper that are one score and one hundred and he cried mightily for his five percent.

15. And they that are of the tribe of the Medicos did bow down their heads and they went each to his own dwelling and took no thought of their going, but went.

16. But they that sit in the places that are high in the council of the Medicos did rejoice greatly for great had been their victory and they raised up their voices and cried, "Yea, verily, are we not even as the cat's own ear-muffs."

JIB-JABS.

Someone has found the Wright man.

A damsel has lost her "hart" in the forest of Sherwood.

The women do not approve of the reflections cast by the long mirror.

If we could reveal all we heard on auscultation over the Gynaikeion, it would have to be called a common common-room.

Rumour has it that at a recent medical excursion, a senior official, carrying on the traditions of a chivalrous age, paid pleasant court to one of our women students, and one of our senior men

duly played knight-errant. We are glad to observe that the latter has retrieved his position.

At the same excursion, another student (of the fairer sex) seemed to be interested in the adventures of a certain eland.

Discreet enquiries made to the *Auricle* committee may elicit the reason for Nina's quietness since her return from Cape Town.

Together with the testis, Alexander descended to the level of lecturing to the sixth years.

For the latest information concerning the more personal aspects of the Italian situation, apply to Kathleen.

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MERIKA, THE DWARF.

A misshapen, grossly deformed achondro plastic native woman was admitted to the Bridgman Memorial Hospital in a pregnant condition. A Caesarean section having failed to save either her life or that of the foetus, the body ultimately found its way into the Clinical Anatomy dissecting room. The grotesque configuration of this dwarfed woman, which had to be seen to be believed, has inspired one of the dissectors to the following outburst:

She could not walk—her legs were bent,
 Her back was curved; her whole life spent
 In squatting thus inside her tent,
 Till Cupid his attentions forced,
 (No doubt his wishes she endorsed)
 For labour pains began one night;
 She pushed and pushed with all her might,
 The foetus stuck—the fit was tight—
 Her pelvis was deformed and small
 The uterus split across its wall—
 To save her life a Caesar was done—
 The surgeon delivered a macerated son—
 She recovered her senses one by one,
 But later on she swooned and died,
 For she coughed her bowel through the wound
 in her side.
 As a pickled corpse she has since been wrecked
 By four; whose duty it was to dissect
 The body with care; and attempt to detect
 A cause for the bending of the bony frame—
 As yet the disease has been given no name.

A Miscarriage of Justice.

A well known medical man, obviously guilty of the crime of procuring abortion was recently declared not guilty. A counsel commenting on the case afterwards remarked:—

“It appears he was such a clever abortionist that he even succeeded in procuring a miscarriage of justice.”

This self-same doctor subsequently left for Spain—perhaps to put down another rising.

Our Anatomists.

What is the length of the inguinal canal?
 3½ inches.
 Carnera! Next?
 ¾ inch.
 Dolfuss! !

Our Finalists.

We were told by a sixth-year student that giving purgatives to a patient suffering from aneurysm of the aorta would assist his passage to the nether regions.

We would implore finalists to avoid ambiguous statements.

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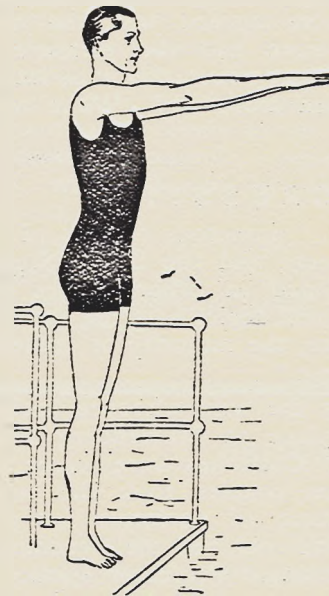
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THE VISIT TO ONDERSTEEPOORT.

Of all the excursions ever undertaken by our Medical School, that to Onderstepoort Veterinary College ranks among the most memorable. The invitation was extended to us by the Onderstepoort students, and their arrangements for the day were a lesson to us in organisation. They were perfect hosts, turning their hostel into a veritable hotel. The women students especially were impressed by the special accommodation provided for them.

We wandered round their grounds all day; through the Pathology, Bacteriology, Anatomy, Physiology and Toxicology departments; the hospital and operating theatres; the museums and library. We were surprised to find that in this age people still consider the animal, to be of greater value to society than the human species. This was well evidenced by the magnificent equipment at Onderstepoort as compared with our medical institutes.

We were impressed by the sympathetic attitude of their students towards their dumb patients.

A noteworthy feature of the day was an interesting lecture by Dr. de Kock on his original work on Splenectomy. Two demonstrations by members of the staff on anaesthesia proved that the dog is readily anaesthetised and that the horse under chloral hydrate bears a strong resemblance to a somewhat more advanced species under the influence of Bacchus.

Our visit was fittingly brought to an end with a dance which all were agreed was the most sociable function we have had the pleasure of attending. The music was sweet, the wine intoxicating, the women even more so! What more could we ask?

CONGRESS!!

For the intellectual, numerous reports of the discussions of Parliament and the Bantu Studies Conference may be found in other papers and journals. This report will depict how the ordinary students, and, therefore, the majority of students, had a "whale of a time."

Firstly, there was the wild whoopee bathing episode which took place at Muizenberg beach round about midnight. Costumes were scarce but, nothing daunted, seven couples took the water and trusted to the cloak of darkness for protection. The water was cold, but the "cuddling" instinct, of which a learned Professor speaks so highly, helped to keep temperatures normal.

Beer at 9d. a quart helped many to see the world through rose-coloured glasses, and songs about "Caviare," "Texas," "Dan the Sanitary Man," and "Dickey Dinah," were lustily sung at many pubs and other places of amusement.

AURICLOPA SPECIAL

Then there were the golfers. These people absolutely ran riot. They played golf all day on the authorised golf course at Mowbray and such was their enthusiasm that they could not keep off the University golf course at night. Spoon play was the outstanding feature of the game. It was men's singles at Mowbray, but mixed doubles at the University.

Much was learnt of the quaint old customs of the Cape. For one thing, many people now know that the Woodstock beach is out of bounds at night, even though you do sit in cars. Also that many public houses provide, for a nominal fee, a charming escort home. Also that a blonde in the mountains is worth two in residence.

Laughing, singing, sight-seeing, dancing and drinking, thus were the happy hours whiled away and eventually, after a week's dissipation, the students headed north.

But the holiday spirit prevailed and the good spirits accompanied everyone, in their hearts and otherwise.

Poker helped some through the dreary Karroo, and those who had the most number of clothes on were the last to leave the table, and apart from a young lady who re-doubled and had to leave immediately, the rest of the young ladies lasted till the end, though they were only left with one garment.

The only grouse the railway had was that only about half the students took beds. Whether this was on account of most people being broke or merely the wandering spirit, it is hard to say.

And so — back to Johannesburg and reality.

INTER-VARSITY.

Inter-Varsity constituted my financial downfall, and, I think, the downfall of many others. I, in common with the rest, had staked my last penny in the local sweepstake on the favourite, Wits, coming in. So confident was I that I went to the rugby determined to give my lustiest support to the team, and borrowed freely to oil my voice.

The rugby proved disappointing. Soon after play had started, Nel was penalised for being too eager to catch his opponent. 3—0 was the result. It was not long before two more penalty goals were scored, one from beyond half-way, making the score 9—0 against us. Kotzenberg was responsible for all three kicks.

Wits, after this set-back, put their backs into it. Van Niekerk, the outstanding wing in our team, scored a try which was not converted, while Olivier, our fly-half, perhaps the most consistent member of the team, dropped a fine goal. The score was now 9—7. My hopes were rising, and to help them I went to the "tea room" for another pint. When I returned, imagine my surprise on

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NEWS SERVICE

seeing the score-board registering 41—7. My pals assured me I was not diplopic, but that actually the boy responsible had made an error, the score was 14—7. Kotzenberg again, damn him, had scored beneath the posts.

Taken all in all, we were fairly beaten. Our team work was not as good as theirs, and they had Kotzenberg.

The singing on the Wits' stand was tuneful, if lacking somewhat in volume during the earlier part of the afternoon. However, after Mr. Judy Wessels and Vic Leary had distributed a few bottles of beer into and amongst the crowd, as much beer going out as into the stomach, the singing became excellent. The volume was tremendous. The words had a pronounced slur, which improved the general smoothness of the piece. The tune—well the orchestra were there for that purpose, so who else worried about such a triviality. Whatever else may be said, the Wits supporters were not lacking in spirits.

As usual many telegrams conveying their good wishes were received from various celebrities. Mae West trusted that Wits were maintaining their reputation for keeping their end up, and holding their own, while Miss Swansbourne was quite prepared to allow Tucs to visit her wards, knowing their pituitary bodies to be rather inactive, and lacking in anterior lobe extract.

The Wits cross-country team ran well, and developed a tremendous thirst as a result. In fact, I think that they only saw five per cent. of the afternoon's rugby.

But let him who would raise an admonishing finger run the course—the Indian Ocean would not assuage his thirst. However, we did well, Nottingham Scheepers, Chomse and Spencer were all home before Turner, the first Tucs man, appeared. We won easily, filling six of the first seven places.

The debate, as to whether Empire Builders still exist, or words to that effect, was lost by Wits. Messrs. Bloom and Badenhorst supplied their audience with their usual quota of high and high low-class humour. The opposition took the matter very seriously, and never so much as allowed the trace of a smile to flicker on their lips. Thank God for Badenhorst and their fundamental stories.

Chess—Well, we won all six games. Until the tea interval Wits were in a bad way. Two of our men were in precarious positions, a third had two bitches against him. After a most excellent repast, Tucs went to pieces. They lost their good positions, and the fellow with the two queens lost them both, demonstrating the truth of that old proverb: "Man cannot serve two mistresses and keep them both."

Since Professor Stammer's excellent treatise on golf, which appeared in a previous number of *The Leech*, many students have taken to this form

of sport. Maybe it is that the Wits men have developed the art of swinging more, or else that they have better control of their balls, but we won hands down, 9—0.

I was not impressed much by the tennis. The weather was inclement, a heavy wind was blowing, making accuracy difficult. Many simple shots were missed. We missed less than our opponents did, and won. Perhaps the best doubles match was that between our leading couple, Laurence and Girdwood, and theirs. But for this match, however, play was not of the highest order.

In the hockey our first team lost 1—3, our second won 9—0. The women's hockey was a draw.

But just one moment, I have forgotten to mention the most important event of the day. The third rugby team, after losing for twelve consecutive years, won 13—8. Within five minutes of the start, Tucs were leading 8—0. At half time the score was 8—3 in favour of Tucs, and playing in brilliant style, Wits went on to score another two tries, making the final score 13—8. We learn that it was Monday morning before the third team were again capable of taking a sober interest in life.

The Inter-Varsity dance was a roaring and rolling success. Everyone went there determined to drown their sorrows, or celebrate their successes. Many went without paramours, and returned loaded with damsels. Romances were made and broken. Amongst the prominent personalities present, perhaps no one was more in evidence than Professor Dart. Raymond, for such he is called on these occasions by one and all, was definitely in his positive phase. Few could put such rhythm and energy into a quickstep as he did, or waltz as romantically. Truly he set a noble example to his students, an example, I believe, which, for good or evil, was followed by the majority of those present.

Wits lost the rugby. I am stony broke, but Inter-Varsity was a success. May the next be as successful, and God forbid that prohibition comes in before then.

OBITUARY.

At the time of going to press, it is with deep sorrow that we have to record the untimely death of Peggy Coulter.

All her fellow students extend their deepest sympathies to her mother and father and her brother and sister.

MENTION "THE AURICLE" WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISERS.

THE STUDENT'S PERFDY.

An operation in "B" Theatre was just drawing to a close and the scene presented was one of unusual quiet. The Chief's face was calm, cool and serene, for all had gone exceptionally well. Even his House-surgeon had shown some skill and had not made a single blunder. The Staff-nurse was looking cheerful and the probationers were bustling around with customary zeal. A group of students were peacefully slumbering in the gallery, and a senior on the floor was looking almost intelligent for the occasion. The patient was breathing deeply and quietly, and the anaesthetist, very satisfied, was indulging in day-dreaming. In fact, the quiet was only broken by the clicking of instruments and the gentle snoring of the patient and students. Just such a scene as one would expect towards the end of a difficult operation. The calm before the storm . . .

The Senior on the floor bent down and whispered something to the Staff-nurse. In a moment the peaceful scene had changed. The Staff-nurse flashed him a look of bitter hatred and viciously slapped down an instrument. The Chief, startled out of his composure, suddenly jerked. The catgut broke. The air became blue with imprecations—"Damn and blast! What the bl--dy He-l!"

He swung round on his heel to rinse his hands and found the basin was not there. A stentorian bellow shook the building. The nurses scattered in all directions. The students sat erect and anxiously awaited events.

"Where the blazes has that !?! basin got to? Another piece of catgut, nurse."

The Houseman, who meanwhile had been employing himself by frantically swabbing an almost invisible ooze of blood, glanced warily around him, and fearful of the Chief's wrath, seized a pair of scissors and too anxious to be helpful, cut the catgut too soon. At which the Chief, throwing his hands towards Heaven in an imploring gesture, wheeled round and brought them down in the basin which had just been replaced by a scared probationer. The water splashed up into his face, and he kicked viciously at the stand, missed, and almost fell. With sullen countenance, he continued the operation.

In the meantime, the anaesthetist had been watching the above proceedings with interest, and had neglected his charge, who had rapidly become cyanosed. The operation had again to be suspended while a few feverish minutes were spent restoring the patient.

The operation then continued in an atmosphere of tense expectancy and muttered imprecations, and finally ended. The Chief took his departure in a dull rage, and was heard voicing his opinion to Sister in the passage, who, not to be outdone, was answering him in no uncertain voice. The altercation waxed fast and furious.

Meanwhile, in the theatre, the patient was being bundled out and in a hissing undertone, the Staff-nurse told the world what she thought of Surgeons, Housemen and more especially students. The latter filed out, the Senior under the lash of the Staff-nurse's tongue. Everyone left with a feeling of dissatisfaction and sense of injustice.

It was later in the common-room. Our friend the Senior had just ended his narrative:

"And all because I asked her," he said, "whether she had remembered to check the swabs."

—B.J.P.

HEAVY DATES!

Inter-Faculty Regatta, August 31st.

Boat Club Dance, August 31st.

Engineers' Ball, September 4th.

Medical Dinner, September 14th.

Sunnyside House Dance, September 12th.

Commerce Ball, September 20th.

Concert by First Year Medicals, September 25th.

The Medical Fraternity will note that this publication has been printed by

Kenneth B. Dickinson

who is not only giving great satisfaction to the journals of the different Medical Groups, but is most conveniently situated for the Profession at

**6 NOORD STREET
Johannesburg**

Phone 33-3921

Box 2432

EXCERPTS FROM THE MEDICAL SCHOOL
"WHO ZOO" AND "WHAT SWAT."

(Now in the safe keeping of the *Auricle* Committee)

[Note: We are prepared to accept suitable presents from School inmates (not less than one guinea) as a protection against the publication of the information that is now in our possession concerning them. Our books are also open for the addition of further information concerning Medical School individuals.]

Alexander—considered by some to be of the species that is called "great." To others he is just "Sandy." Take the Gal-away and you find Alex-on-der warpath.

Alfie—chesst a little man—proud of his chess and of his chest—expansion

Archie of the 3 (y)ears—another effort by Sutherland. The story of a "path" "strachan" with morbid consequences.

Atheroma—see *Archie*.

Anthropology Instruments—pronounced: Anthrop—Oh, Hell; Oh gee! Why instruments?

Bentel—the man of many bents—musical entertainer, tennis player, soccer player, polo player, lady charmer, and medical student. In fact, so numerous are his "Bents" that he often "twists" his stories for the sake of the common room audience.

Braun—one who has made his successes out of his "Fehlings." He generally succeeds in keeping his golf balls (as well as sugar) out of the water. Dark and handsome, for him many a woman would for-"suiker" own sugar.

Brebner—a man generally well-liked, although he has his knife in for most of his patients. A chip from the rugged old block has landed in our midst. With his father's experience in the theatre his "laddie" should prove an equally good performer.

Broadhead—broad-minded, widely sought, vastly experienced—but she will persist in keeping to the narrow path.

AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

Certain gigantic dinosaurs of the remote past, that were stilted upon a colossal underpinning of pillar-like legs, for example, Brontosaurus, actually had a considerably greater diameter in the sacral region of the cord than in the brain itself, which inspired "B. L. T." in the *Chicago Tribune* to write

"You will observe by these remains
The creature had two sets of brains—
One in his head (the usual place),
The other at his spinal base.
Thus could he reason a priori
As well as a posteriori.
No problem bothered him a bit,
He made both head and tail of it.
If something slipped his forward mind
'Twas rescued by the one behind.
And if in error he was caught
He had a saving afterthought."

—Walter. *Biology of the Vertebrates*.

Impossible Surgeons.

Surgeon visiting patient on the day following a nephrectomy:—

"Well, my man, how do you feel today?"

"Thank you doctor, very much better than I did after the first kidney was removed!!"

Impossible Nurses.

The nurse who was going out to a party and borrowed a Hegar's dilator for her pupils.

Impossible Patients.

The patient who, given croton oil and promised by the chemist that it would make him feel young, said that he was not quite sure about feeling younger, but he had done something very childish.

The S.M.C. Executive is now constituted as follows:—

President: Mr. S. L. Kark.

Vice-President: Mr. E. W. Schultz.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Harvey Cohen.

Asst. Treasurer: Mr. T. W. Macnab.

Minute Secretary: Miss J. Mackintosh.

Correspondent Secretary: Mr. D. P. S. O'Keefe.

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MEDICAL ACTIVITIES IN ALL SPORTS.

This year, as in the past, Medical students are occupying a prominent position in University sports, which is completely out of proportion with their numbers.

The leadership of almost every club in the University is in the hands of our Medicals. The following Medicals are chairmen of sports clubs: Lyell (Athletics), Muskat (Boxing and Wrestling), Cowley (Golf), Saltz (Hockey), Southwood (Rugby), Jackie Lawrence (Tennis), and Linington (Chess).

Athletics—

Five Medicals were included in the team of eleven that won the Dalrymple Cup at the recent Inter-Varsity in Durban. They were A. C. Lyell (capt.), J. M. Marquard (vice), L. Fouche, H. Chomse and E. Lurie.

Lyell, this year's club captain and Transvaal and S. Transvaal half-mile champion, won the half at Durban; and at the Minor Inter-Varsity against Pretoria University, he won in the record time of 1 min. 56-1 secs., beating W. Botha's track record.

Marquard, who equalled the old 440 record and was placed third at the S.A. Championships, won the 440 at both Major and Minor Inter-Varsitys.

Fouche, our shot-put expert, won the shot against Pretoria and obtained second place in Durban with the excellent shot of 44 ft. 7½ ins., breaking the previous record by over 3 feet.

Chomse ran excellently in the 2 miles at Durban to gain second place. He has shown marked improvement on the track this season and also promises to become a cross-country runner of rare ability.

Lurie, our pole-vaulter, performed well at Durban, obtaining second place, in addition to winning the event against Pretoria.

Muskat, the University walker, proved his ability by taking second place at the S.A. Championships.

Four of the eight Wits athletes selected to represent combined S.A. Universities against the visiting Oxford-Cambridge team are Medicals. They are Fouche, Lyell, Marquard and Lurie, and of these the first three mentioned have already been nominated to represent Transvaal.

Other Medicals taking an active part in the club are Linington, Enslin, Silberman and Miss Meaker.

Boating—

The Boat Club, like most other University clubs, has a large number of Medicals upon its membership rolls.

The Medicals who have played a prominent

part in the Rowing Club and who have now had to give it up owing to pressure of work are Dr. Gear, Dr. Moller and Dr. Parnell. Fortunately, however, there are new members coming on, who, we hope, will soon take their place.

Medicals who have obtained their places in crews are: Manolis, O'Keefe, Mearns, de Saxe, Brebner, Adcock and Theron. The latter two, who have only recently joined the Club, have done remarkably well in that they helped to win the Novice Race at the Vaal Regatta, and also carried off the Novice Pairs at the Jubilee Regatta.

Three members of the Inter-Varsity crew which won the first Inter-Varsity Boat Race were Medicals.

The Inter-Faculty Regatta, which is now an annual feature, will take place at the Germiston Lake on Saturday, 31st August, at 2 p.m. The Medical crew, which has been training consistently, has shaped into a formidable combination and should do well.

The Regatta will be followed by a dance in the evening at the Victoria Lake Club House.

Boxing and Wrestling—

Medical students have been taking a very active part in the affairs of the University Boxing and Wrestling Club. This year's chairman is D. A. Muskat, former feather-weight champion.

G. W. Luntz, secretary of the Club, is a very promising welter-weight who, unfortunately, could not compete in the local championships owing to injury sustained to his hand. Included in the committee are Messrs. B. P. Chait (last year's chairman), J. Hoffman and A. Goldberg.

At the Inter-Varsity during Nusas week at Cape Town, two Medicals represented this University, viz., T. Gillman and O. Schmahmann. The former put up an exceptionally good fight in the feather-weight semi-finals and was unlucky not to get the decision. Schmahmann qualified for the finals in the light-heavyweights, but lost, the decision meeting with a very mixed reception.

N. Mann and A. Goldberg fought well at the Varsity Championships. The latter is also one of the outstanding wrestlers of the University.

Ever since the inauguration of the Club, medical students have always been its mainstay.

Chess—

Chess at the Medical School is exciting a great deal of interest among students. Five out of the six chosen to represent Wits at Inter-Varsity were Medicals, namely Messrs. Barrow, Clark, Cowley, Enslin and Linington. All won their matches.

STUDENTS SUPPORT THE LOUNGE
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The tournament has not yet been completed, so no results are available.

League matches start this month, and the team should do well.

Golf—

Medicals form the active Golf committee: J. G. Cowley, captain; W. Girdwood and J. Thomas, joint-secretaries; N. de la Hunt, H. Edwards and V. Leary, committee members.

V. Leary is Golf Champion for 1935. Congratulations.

At the last Inter-Varsity, Wits won by 9—0; 4 Medicals played and 2 Milner Park freshers.

Hockey—

Medicals are playing a prominent part in the activities of the Men's Hockey Club this year. There are at least 20 Medicals in the club excluding freshers. J. L. Saltz is chairman of the club and captain of the 1st XI. G. Dison is secretary, and H. Chomse is a committee member. Other active members are M. V. Kramer, V. Wright, J.

Theron, A. Friedman, H. Shakinovsky, L. Slutzkin, K. Donald and M. Cohen.

On 29th July, the first team, including eight Medicals, met the Natal team (which was second in the Provincial tournament) and put up a good performance to lose by only two goals to nil.

At the Inter-Varsity against Pretoria, the hockey results were:—

1st Teams: Wits 1; Pretoria 3.

Tennis— 2nd Teams: Wits 9; Pretoria 0.

The year started well for the Club as the first team gained promotion into the second section of the first league of the Southern Transvaal Lawn Tennis Association by defeating Benoni in the finals of the second league.

Matches have been played against Yeoville and Berea in which the College team acquitted themselves well.

Medicals have played a large part in contributing to the success of the team, and five of the team of six consists of Medicals, namely, Girdwood, Lauf, J. Laurence, Theron and Wium.

I HEARD:—

IN AND OUT OF THE BOARDROOM

THAT the general meeting had a peculiar anthropoidal tone — Heard Nothing, Saw Nothing, Said Nothing, Thought Nothing, Voted on Everything!!

THAT the Boardroom has now become an opium den, judging by our President's Utopian dreams concerning future student relationships. In fact, he has "mor-phia" of the "comatose" group than of the acute exacerbations of our chronic maligners.

THAT the epidemic of housemaniasis has become a positive rather than a negative disease. Students are no longer ignored. These infected subjects have become so deeply interested in our welfare to the extent of reporting our misdemeanours to the superior bodies.

THAT *The Leech*, a veritable Leech as far as finance is concerned, is nevertheless a boon to the thought of our School.

Talking about thought there are still numerous individuals who view **THOUGHT** as an obsession peculiar to the upper strata.

THAT an eel laid an egg—hatching produced the S.R.C.

A goose laid a golden egg—the medical student.

The eel's offspring must remember that even geese have a limited period of fertility. (Volksrust papers please copy).

THAT a "Coming-of-Age" Party is to be held. The first-year students are to present themselves at "Court" for the scrutiny of the senior royalty in our faculty on September 25th. The debut will take the form of a Concert.

THAT the Medical School hunger march will be terminated on September 14th—our annual feed, and, incidentally, Alex. G's. beer feast.

THAT rumour had it that the Council had difficulty in filling executive vacancies . . . Rumour for once had it. Are the Council's morals going up? No one wanted to be co-respondent. Lethargic. Truly lethargic!

THAT the powers that be have decided that gambling is a vice. Their definition of gambling, viz., any game in which money passes from one person to another, shows lack of respect for the most ancient and serviceable profession of our universe.

THAT an ex-councillor, exhausted with many onerous duties, advertised for a partner to the Kruger National Park. "Wanted—a young adult female, moderately well nourished, must be game and not reserved."

THAT cheers and tears followed the resignation of two notorious members of the "tyranny."

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