

ÆTIOLOGY.—Gonorrhœa is a disease of the upper classes, all our patients assuring us that they are respectable and respected, of good family, well educated and morally pure. It is curious that the disease occurs only in men and women who have absolutely nothing whatever to do with members of the opposite sex, indeed in those who cannot tolerate the opposite sex.

The commonest causes are as follows:—Falling off a bicycle, falling off a kerb, falling on a spike, lifting heavy weights, being kicked by a horse, or tripping over a stone. The commonest place in which to contract the disease is in a public convenience.

SYMPTOMS.—The symptoms may be those of any disease. The characteristic symptom, of course, is the discharge, and the characteristic feature of the discharge is that it first appears when the patient is being examined by the physician.

PROPHYLAXIS.—Bearing in mind the aetiological factors, prophylaxis is a simple matter. Bicycles should be abolished and tricycles substituted—they are safer. All kerbs should be removed. The erection of spikes should be prohibited. Each individual should be supplied with a crane to lift heavy weights. Horses' hoofs should be well padded and all public thoroughfares cleared of stones. Public conveniences are a menace to moral society and should be destroyed or converted into safer or more useful institutions.

TREATMENT.—Tell your best friend about your affliction, he will advise you how to treat it from practical experience. Otherwise visit a pharmacist. When in spite of all the expert advice so obtained the disease has progressed to such an extent that you cannot perform an ordinary, natural, and perfectly harmless act without excruciating pain, it is permissible to visit a physician.

I.G.

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Scene:—Ward 14: Patient with ataxic gait.

Physician: " In a lesion of the Pyramidal tract the patient can still walk, but his gait is ataxic. This is due to the fact that the Rubro-Spinal tract is intact and this primitive tract enables the patient to walk."

Student: " Well, sir, in that case, how is it that an infant can't walk, for it also has the Rubro-Spinal tract, the Pyramidal fibres only developing later in life."

Physician: " Young man, if you can answer my question, I will answer yours. How is it that a child can swim in Utero, but is unable to do so when born? "

Student (reading out notes on case in Ward 13):—" Complaint: The patient was admitted under the care of Prof. Williamson on . . . "

Non-European Casualty.—Enter buxom Zulu belle with a six inch scalp wound down to the bone.

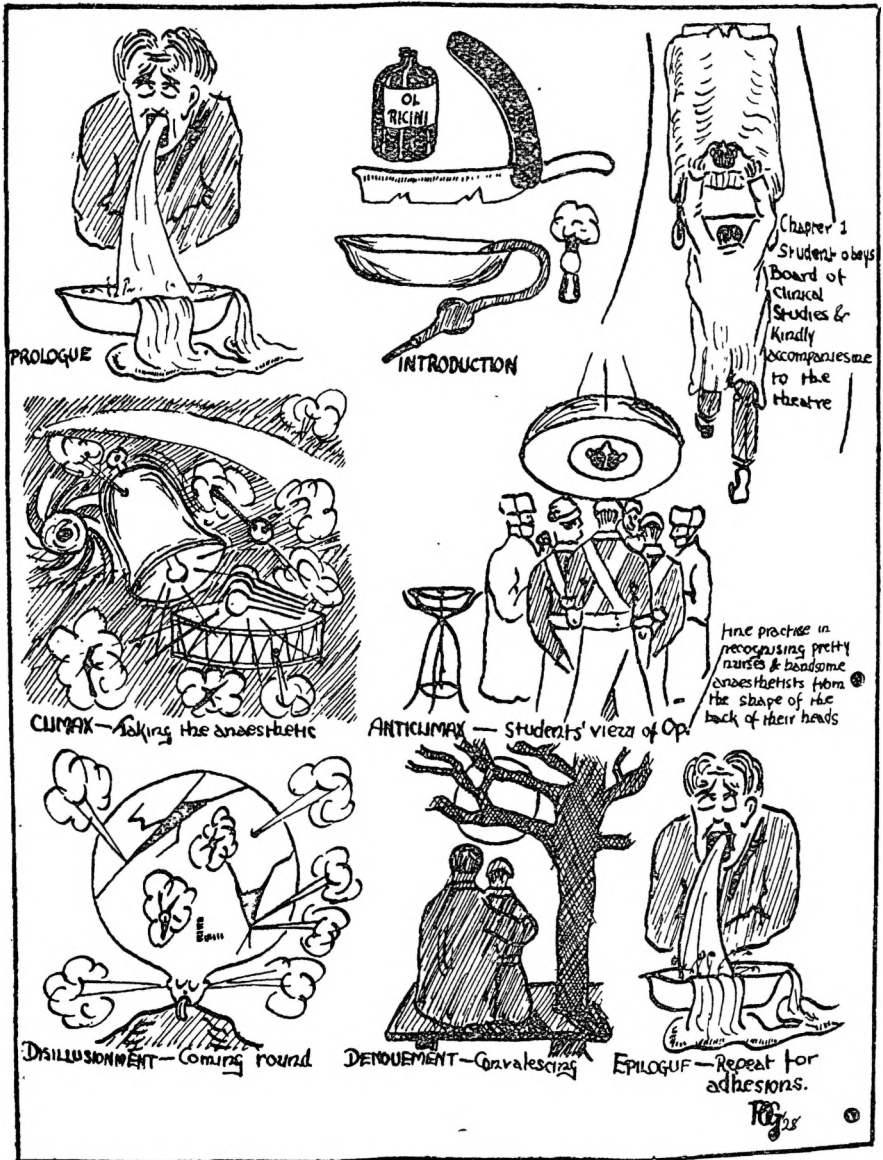
Casualty Officer: " Is this from a motor accident? "

Zulu Belle: " No, sah! Ma husband woke me with a choppah."

Honorary (lecturing on patient with urethral discharge):—
" Gentlemen, you never can tell. Here we have a history of a bicycle accident one day, when the patient fell off and injured himself on an iron spike of an adjacent railing. Unfortunately, sitting on the top of the spike, was a solitary gonococcus."

Scene: Main Theatre.

Nurse (to Senior Student): " Will you take the case back to the Ward, Sonny? "



S.S. : " Yes, Nurse! "

Nurse : " It's perfectly easy. All you have to do is to keep her face well covered, turn it to the side, hold her jaw well forward, and keep the receiver next to her face in case she vomits."

S.S. : " And if she stops breathing, Nurse, must I call a policeman? "

Scene.—Sekukuni Ward, Non-European Hospital.

Student (to patient) : " Pefumulah! "

No response.

Student : " Pefumulah! "

Still no response.

Student : " Pefumulah, damn you! "

Patient : Excuse me, sir, but do you wish me to breathe deeply? "

Patient : Please, doctor, I am so run down; I want you to give me a tourniquet to brace me up a bit.

Public Health up to date :—

" Plague is also transmitted by the multimammate louse."

" One of the insect carriers of disease is the pig."

" Domestic fleas are rarely found on veld rodents, and vice versa."

Patient (relating her experiences in hospital) : " I jest managed to get a peep at the board on my bed and it said ' $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. Morph.,' so that shows 'ow 'orribly bad I was; they took $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. mortification out of my leg."

Student : " Is this your first baby? "

Patient : " Lor', no, doctor, I ain't a primate."

From a Student's Case history :—" No history of specific disease, otherwise normal."

Non-European Casualty :—Orderly : " Nurse, you remember that drunk who came in an hour ago? Well, the detectives took some of the skokiaan he'd been drinking down to Marshall Square, and injected some of it into a rabbit, and the rabbit ran out into the street and bit a bulldog."

" On this chapturr I have very little to say. I am reminded of the boy who was asked to write an essay on ' Snakes in Iceland.' It began and ended thus : ' Therre arre no snakes in Iceland.' "

" The patient refused opurratation and we werre perrfectly satisfied, as we know that we had left him in better hands than ourr own."

House Surgeon (referring to ancient, wizened woman admitted to Non-European Hospital that day), to Chief : " There's a woman in Khama Ward of 104, sir."

Chief : " What, pulse or temperature, "

H.S. : " Neither, age."