

APR 9 1956

April, 1956

# THE BULLETIN

*of the Tulsa County Medical Society*

## ***IN THIS ISSUE***

Tulsa County Medical Society To Hear  
Minneapolis Surgeon On April 9, 1956



State Convention Speakers Announced



Fifth Annual Mental Health Institute  
Scheduled In Tulsa, April 6, 1956



Malpractice Can Be Prevented!

Vol. 22

No. 4





a "judicious combination..."

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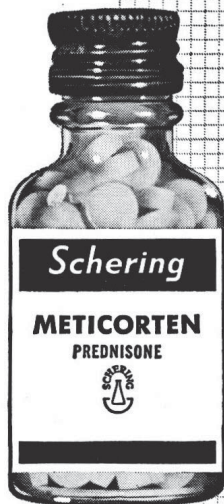
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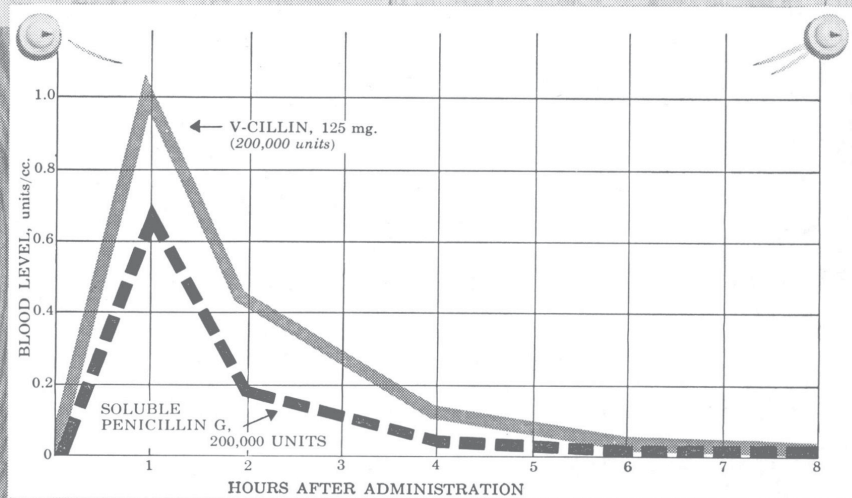
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## *With The Editor . . .*

After more than two years of negotiation, the Insurance Committee of the Oklahoma State Medical Association has adopted a Standard Insurance Reporting Form proposed by the Tulsa County Medical Society . . . The approval of the form will permit its use on a statewide basis, thus increasing its chances for acceptance by the insurance companies . . . The form is a modification of a suggested standard form developed by the American Medical Association and contains an assignment for direct payment of physician's charges . . . The Tulsa County Medical Society was disappointed that the State Association will not print up the form for sale to members . . . Instead, each doctor will be asked to have his own printer duplicate it . . . This is going to very costly and troublesome, and this feature of the project may well doom it to failure . . . We feel the Insurance Committee of the State Association would do well to re-view its decision . . . The accepted standard reporting form is still fairly lengthy, and it is possible that further pruning will be done after a trial period to determine its usefulness . . . Particular thanks in this project go to members of the Insurance Committee of the Tulsa County Medical Society for 1953-55, notably Drs. Fred E. Woodson, F. L. Flack, Wilkie D. Hoover, John G. Matt, and Robert Hall Johnson . . . We hear Gina Lollobrigida is married to a doctor . . . Suppose she belongs to the Auxiliary? . . . Speaking of the Auxiliary, a current project of the state and local organizations is the solicitation of funds for the American Medical Education Foundation . . . Although demands for contributions are heavy and come from all sources, the AMEC is particularly deserving of a slice of your charity budget . . . The money goes to help build up the personnel and facilities of medical schools . . . While the Auxiliary is soliciting among the laity principally, they will be calling on you . . . Give their plea some attention. Our record of giving to the AMEC in Oklahoma is very poor.



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# THE BULLETIN

OF THE

## TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

F. L. Flack, M.D., *President*G. R. Russell, M.D., *President-Elect*James W. Kelley, M.D., *Vice-President*Walter E. Brown, M.D., *Sec.-Treasurer*Jack Spears, *Executive Secretary*

Vol. 22

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, APRIL, 1956

No. 4

## MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE SCHEDULED

**One-Day Course in Disturbing Behavior  
Problems Set for April 6, 1956. Noted  
New York Psychiatrist to Head Program.**

The Fifth Annual Mental Health Institute of Tulsa, a one-day study course in mental health problems, will be held Friday, April 6, 1956, in the Student Activities Building of the University of Tulsa. The subject of this year's Institute is "Understanding Disturbing Behavior."

The fifth in an annual series, the Institute is expected to equal or better its 1955 attendance record of 500 persons. The instruction course is designed primarily for doctors, nurses, social workers, ministers, and lay persons with mental health problems in the home or in industry.

Guest speakers for the Institute will include:

*Paul V. Lemkau, M.D.*, Director of Mental Health Services for New York City Community Mental Health Board, New York, N. Y.

*Jean S. Felton, M. D.*, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

An enrollment fee of \$1.00 will again be charged, and luncheon will be \$1.50. A complete program and enrollment form will be sent to all members of the Tulsa County Medical Society. Early registration is advised.

The Institute is being sponsored by the Tulsa County Association for Mental Health in cooperation with the Tulsa Council of Social Agencies, Tulsa County Medical Society, University of Tulsa, Tulsa PT-A, the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Tulsa Public Schools System, Tulsa Council of Churches, and

the Oklahoma Association for Mental Health.

Dr. Lemkau is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. During World War II he served as chief of neuropsychiatric services at several Army hospitals in this country and in Europe. He has been a consultant with the National Institute of Mental Health, the World Health Organization, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the Rockefeller Foundation. Special projects for these organizations have taken him in Italy, Japan, and Yugoslavia.

Dr. Felton obtained his medical degree from Stanford University Medical School. Following service in the Philippines and Japan with the Army Medical Corps, he was medical director at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. For the past three years he has been on the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine faculty at Oklahoma City.

The program for the Institute will be as follows:

8:30 A.M. Registration.

9:30 A.M. Announcements and Introductions.

9:40 A.M. "Understanding Disturbing Behavior." Dr. Paul V. Lemkau, New York, N. Y.

10:30 A.M. Coffee break.

11:00 A.M. Continuation of Dr. Lemkau's address.

12:00 Noon. Luncheon, University Methodist Church.

12:30 P.M. "Worry and Work." Dr. Jean S. Felton, Oklahoma City.

2:00 P.M. Disturbing Behavior Situations. Play, "The Room Upstairs," presented by the Spotlight Players, with analysis by Dr. Joe E. Tyler. Play, "The Case of the Missing Handshake," with analysis by Dr. Paul C. Benton.

The afternoon session is devoted to two plays prepared by the National Association for Mental Health and performed by members of the Spotlight Club, Tulsa dramatic group.

Registration forms should be mailed to Mrs. Earl H. Johnson, Jr., Tulsa County Association for Mental Health, Post Office Box 7357, Tulsa.

### AUXILIARY EVENT TO HONOR PROMINENT TULSA DOCTOR

Dr. John F. Gorrell, veteran Tulsa ophthalmologist, will be honored at a dinner dance commemorating National Doctors Day on Friday, April 6, 1956, at Oaks Country Club. The event is an annual project of the Auxiliary to the Tulsa County Medical Society.

Other Tulsa physicians honored in previous years by the Auxiliary have included Dr. W. Albert Cook, Dr. H. D. Murdock, and Dr. P. P. Nesbitt.

Born in 1881 at Hebron, West Virginia, Dr. Gorrell received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1908. He has been in practice in Tulsa since 1916 and has had a long career in local and state medical and hospital circles. Dr. Gorrell served as President of the Tulsa County Medical Society in 1930.

National Doctors Day was first celebrated in 1934 on the 92nd anniversary of the first successful use of anesthesia by Dr. Crawford Long in Atlanta. Although the date actually falls on March

30th this year, the celebration was postponed one week due to Good Friday. Mrs. Harold J. Black is Chairman of the Tulsa celebration, assisted by Mrs. Raymond G. Ray, Mrs. Robert L. Anderson, Mrs. Charles H. Eads, Mrs. John C. Dague, and Mrs. Robert W. Spencer.

The event is scheduled for 6:00 P.M.

### INSTRUCTION COURSE SET ON ATOMIC MEDICINE SUBJECTS

Members of the Tulsa County Medical Society and their wives are invited to attend a unique meeting on "The Atomic Aspects of Medicine" to be held Saturday, April 21, at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds in Oklahoma City.

The program, designed to highlight Medical Education Week in Oklahoma, will feature a scientific program with visiting distinguished guest speakers, an "Atoms for Peace" medical exhibit, special features for visiting wives, and will close with a banquet.

Dr. Dwight Murray of Napa, California, President-Elect of the American Medical Association, will be the principal speaker at the Evening banquet. Other guest speakers for the scientific program will include Dr. Marshall Brucer, Chairman of the Medical Division, Oak Ridge Institute, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Dr. Gould A. Andrews, Chief of the Clinical Service, Medical Division, Oak Ridge Institute, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The "Atoms for Peace" exhibit is the same one prepared by the Oak Ridge Institute for display in Geneva, Switzerland, last summer. The Oklahoma City showing is designed as the last public exhibition before its individual units are dismantled and sent to various laboratories across the nation.

The event is being sponsored by the Oklahoma County Medical Society. Reservations are \$6.00 per person and should be sent to the Oklahoma County Medical Society, 503 Medical Arts Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

DR. WALTER F. SETHNEY was a member of the faculty for the University of Oklahoma's Postgraduate Short Course in Pediatrics, February 29 through March 2, at Oklahoma City.

### NEW ROSTER AVAILABLE

A new and up-to-date membership roster of the Tulsa County Medical Society has been published and is now available from the Executive Offices of the Society at B-9 Medical Arts Building, Tulsa. Copies are available upon request. The roster is now being published twice yearly.



## TOP DANCE BAND SET FOR CONVENTION

**Ted Weems Orchestra to Play for Dinner Dance at Oklahoma State Medical Association Meeting. Additional Visiting Guest Speakers Announced.**

Ted Weems and His Orchestra, nationally known dance band and Decca recording artists, have been engaged for the President's Inaugural Dinner Dance, a feature of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma State Medical Association at Oklahoma City, May 6-9, 1956.

The Dinner Dance, top social event of the convention, has been scheduled for Tuesday evening, May 8th, in the Persian Room of the Skirvin Tower Hotel. Dancing to the Weems Orchestra will begin at 9:00 P.M. and continue for four hours. The event will open with a social hour followed by dinner and the inaugural program. As this issue of The Bulletin went to press, the price of tickets to the Dinner Dance had not been

fixed. All Oklahoma doctors will be advised of the price in mid-April and Dinner Dance tickets will go on advance sale at that time.

Dr. Robert M. Bird, Chairman of the Scientific Works Committee, has announced the names of several additional visiting distinguished guest speakers for the scientific program. They are:

*Perry D. Hudson, M.D.*, Professor of Urology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, N. Y.

*John W. Henderson, M.D.*, Ophthalmologist, The Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

*N. Frederick Hicken, M.D.*, Associate

Professor of Clinical Surgery, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, Utah.

*William H. Masters, M.D.*, Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri.

*William T. Lbannon, M.D.*, Professor of Psychiatry & Neurology, Baylor University College of Medicine, Houston, Texas.

*Theodore C. Pannos, M.D.*, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Texas School of Medicine, Galveston, Texas.

Previously announced as speakers are:

*E. Grey Dimond, M.D.*, Chairman of the Department of Medicine, University of Kansas Medical School.

*Edward C. Holmblad, M.D.*, Managing Director, Industrial Medical Association, Chicago, Illinois.

*Paul C. Aebersold, Ph.D.*, Director of the Isotopes Division, United States Atomic Energy Commission, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

A special guest speaker will be Lt. Col. John P. Stapp, medical officer in charge of deceleration tests at Holloman Air Development Center, New Mexico. Dr. Stapp's experiments in riding a rocket driven sled to a speed of 630 miles an hour and coming to a complete stop in one and one-half seconds have won him international attention.

Three Tulsa doctors will also appear



**TED WEEMS**

on the scientific program. They are Dr. Walter E. Brown, who will discuss "The Clinical Management of Hodgkins Disease"; Dr. Edward L. Moore, "Clinical Consideration of Meckils Diverticulum"; and Dr. G. R. Russell, "Causes for New-born Fatalities."

The program will again feature round-table luncheons, over 30 scientific exhibits, and 55 commercial exhibits. The exhibits and scientific meetings will be housed in Municipal Auditorium.

Another special feature of the convention will be a Doctors Hobby Show sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Oklahoma State Medical Association. The Show will exhibit sparetime activities of members of the Association. Tulsa physicians with hobbies suitable for exhibition are urged to contact Mrs. D. Nello Brown, Chairman, Hobby Show Committee, Oklahoma State Medical Association, 1227 Classen Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The House of Delegates will meet on Sunday, May 6, 1956, at 1:00 P.M. at Municipal Auditorium. The scientific sections will open Monday morning, along with the scientific and commercial exhibits, and continue through Wednesday noon, May 9th.

The selection of Ted Weems and His Orchestra for the President's Inaugural Dinner Dance is expected to be a popular one. Weems has been a leading bandmaster for the past 25 years, beginning with a small jazz combo in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His orchestra quickly became a national headliner and enjoyed a long stay at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Later, he became a fixture of the popular Fibber McGee and Molly airshow and more recently on television's "Beat the Band." Some of the prominent entertainers who formerly appeared with his band include Perry Como, Marilyn Maxwell, Elmo Tanner, and Mary Lee. His best known success is "Heartaches," first recorded in 1932 and again in 1947 when it sold a phenomenal 3,000,000 records. Weems is the author of the famous hillbilly tune, "The Martins and the Coys," as well as many others.

Featured with the Weems aggregation are comic Red Ingle, Bonnie Ann Shaw, Ted Stanford, Dave Bedal, and the Ted

Weems Trio.

Tulsa doctors are urged to write now for hotel reservations. Requests for accommodations should be addressed to the Oklahoma State Medical Association, 1227 Classen Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Please state date of arrival and departure, approximate time of arrival, type of accommodation desired, and the number of persons to occupy the room. Confirmations will be mailed directly from the hotel.

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### MEDICAL ASSISTANTS PLAN PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

The Medical Assistants Society of Tulsa has scheduled a clinical training course of its members to be given in eight parts during April and May, 1956.

Designed to improve the usefulness of office assistants to the doctor, the course will emphasize office procedures, telephone use and courtesy, medical terminology and stenography, personal appearance and poise, credits and collections, public relations, and methods of preventing malpractice actions.

The course will be given on the evenings of April 3, 1956, through May 22, 1956, in the Auditorium of the Blue Cross - Blue Shield Building of Tulsa. The instructors are being drawn from the faculty of the University of Tulsa, prominent Tulsa attorneys and business leaders, officials of medical organizations, and specialists in public relations.

A \$10.00 registration fee is being charged for the course. The Board of Trustees of the Tulsa County Medical Society formally endorsed the project at its March meeting and is urging members of the Society to pay the registration fee for their employees.

The course is similar to several fostered in other areas by the American Medical Association and local medical assistant organizations.

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DR. C. THOMAS THOMPSON has been named County Physician and Medical Director of the Tulsa County Medical Clinic. He succeeds DR. FRANK H. MCGREGOR, who resigned to enter practice at Oklahoma City.



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### MINNEAPOLIS SURGEON WILL SPEAK HERE APRIL 9, 1956

Dr. N. Kenneth Jensen, Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Minneapolis, Minnesota, will be guest speaker for the Tulsa County Medical Society on Monday, April 9, at 8:00 P.M. His subject will be "Pancreatitis."

The meeting will be at the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Building, 1215 South Boulder, Tulsa. A brief business meeting will follow the scientific program. Telephone service is available by calling LU 5-9149.

A native of Idaho, Dr. Jensen is a graduate of Washington University School of Medicine, Class of 1935. He interned at Barnes Hospital and subsequently completed a one year residency in surgery and pathology at St. Louis City Hospital. In 1937 he entered the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Minnesota as a surgical fellow and spent three years at Minneapolis General Hospital. An additional year was then spent in a surgical residency at University Hospitals of Minneapolis. He entered military service in 1941 and was discharged five years later with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Dr. Jensen has been in practice in Minneapolis since that time and is now on the staffs of several leading hospitals there. He is a diplomate of

the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, member of the American College of Chest Physicians, and member of numerous other medical organizations.

Under directions of the membership approved at the annual business meeting last December, the Society will select a candidate for the post of Delegate to the American Medical Association. This will be done at the business session of the April 9th meeting. The physician selected at that time will be presented as a candidate for the post at the May 6th meeting of the House of Delegates in Oklahoma City.

The program of April 9th will conclude the Spring series of scientific programs for the Tulsa County Medical Society. No program will be held in May due to the annual meeting of the Oklahoma State Medical Association in Oklahoma City, May 6-9, and the Society will recess during the summer months. The Fall season will resume on Monday, September 10, 1956.

### INSURANCE PROGRAM BEGINS

The Oklahoma State Medical Association's program of group life insurance will continue to be open for new applicants until further notice, it was announced last month. The group policy went into effect March 15, 1956, as the Association recorded over 400 applicants. Physicians wishing to apply are urged to send in their application and check at once to Oklahoma Medical Association Insurance Trust, 1227 Classen Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Additional application forms are available at the Executive Offices of the Tulsa County Medical Society.

It's a boy for DR. and MRS. PAUL O. SHACKELFORD, born March 2nd.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of DR. ROBERT L. ALLISON to Miss Norma Sue Robertson of Tulsa. The ceremony has been tentatively planned for June 2nd at Wheeling Avenue Christian Church.

DR. MARY V. GRAHAM has returned to her office after a week's illness at St. John's Hospital.



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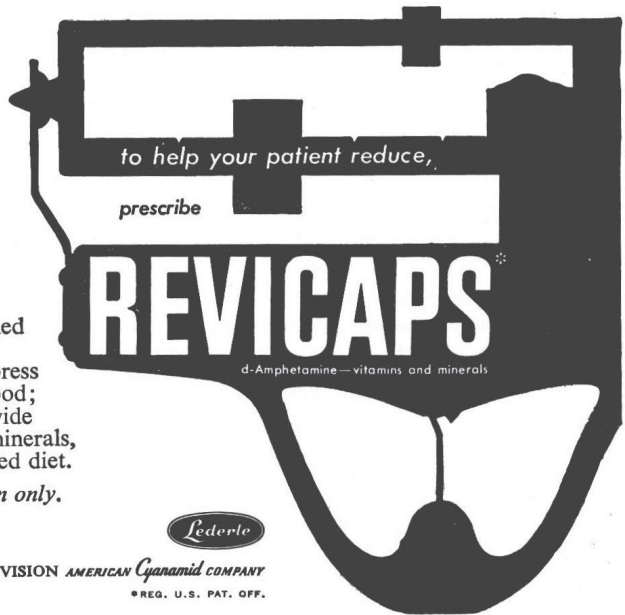
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## *Insurance Rates Scheduled To Rise*

# MALPRACTICE CAN BE PREVENTED

*Second in a Series*

Malpractice rates in Oklahoma are going up.

Officials of the St. Paul-Mercury Indemnity Company, carriers of the official group policy of malpractice insurance for the Oklahoma State Medical Association, last month advised that premiums would be increased from 10 to 50 per cent beginning in July, 1956. The increases are to be largely based on the assured's type of work—internists, apparently the best risk, will find their premiums up only 10 per cent. But surgeons, radiologists, and psychiatrists are likely to get the biggest hike, a 50 per cent increase in present rates.

The increase comes as a surprise to no one in the know on state malpractice matters. About one out of every twenty Oklahoma doctors has had a malpractice suit threatened or filed in the last three years. The ratio is even less in the larger cities. While very few have actually come to trial, out of court settlements have ranged into the thousands.

The growing incidence of the malpractice suit in Oklahoma is no different than in all states. Doctors and hospitals are becoming more and more the target of patients seeking juicy cash windfalls. Some 5,000 cases are now being tried annually with thousands more settled out of court. The situation is being helped along by unscrupulous attorneys and by a marked change in the public attitude towards litigation—today's watchword seems to be "sue, sue, sue." Thus it is that not only malpractice but all types of liability cases have climbed to astounding numbers in the last ten years.

With your chance of a suit roughly one in twenty, constant vigilance against malpractice becomes the order of the day in every doctor's office. Experience has shown that about one out of every ten malpractice cases has any basis in fact. The remainder are largely nuisance suits

or actions which arise through the carelessness of the doctor and his employees, poor doctor-patient relationships, or criticism of the work of one doctor by another. The penalty is tangibly expressed in terms of sizeable judgments and settlements and the resultant increase in malpractice premium rates.

In many states the increase in malpractice rates has doubled in two years. Oregon, Illinois, and Georgia have each seen a 100 per cent increase; in five others they are up as much as 75 per cent. Base rates are running as high as \$130.00 annually (for \$10,000-\$30,000 coverage); doctors in the San Francisco area are now paying such rates. For necessary and desirable extended coverage, the premiums jump sharply.

It isn't necessary to actually commit malpractice in order to get a suit; in fact, malpractice suits tend to be filed against the most highly trained, competent and respected physicians. Just doing a good brand of scientific medicine is no protection in itself; most malpractice suits stem from things distant from the quality of the medical care rendered.

To illustrate, let's take a few typical situations:

1. While removing an appendix, a surgeon noticed a small cyst on the ovary and in line with good surgical procedure removed it. The patient sued because he exceeded his consent. A tremendous number of cases arise from failure to get proper consent. Such consent should be written and must be obtained from a person properly qualified to give consent; where the patient is a child, make sure the consent comes from both parents or a legal guardian. For older patients who may be incompetent, as in the case of shock therapy for mental patients, the physician must be able to prove in court that the patient was incompetent to make his own decision. In such cases consent

should be obtained from the next-of-kin.

2. A dermatologist was charged with burning a patient with a skin preparation prescribed for home use. The physician's records were so incomplete that he could not prove what had been prescribed for the patient or the instructions which went with it; the preparation had been dispensed by the doctor himself. Good records are essential if malpractice is to be avoided. They must record every basic fact in the case with particular attention to names and dates. The record must show the patient's complaint, physical finding, treatment prescribed, copies of all x-ray and laboratory reports, and copies of complicated instructions given to the patient. Many cases turn on the thoroughness of a record; juries are not apt to be sympathetic with the slovenly doctor.

3. Dr. A performed a rectal operation on a patient. As it was a minor procedure the patient soon went home from the hospital. Shortly afterwards the patient began to hemorrhage; by then Dr. A. was away on a fishing trip. The frantic family spent a half-day trying to locate the surgeon or to find out who was taking his calls; the result was a malpractice suit based on the physician's failure to arrange for a substitute. This is a situation so easily prevented; an arrangement with one or more doctors to cover for the absent physician is essential. Most important, that arrangement should be publicized to the doctor's office, hospital, and exchange. Make sure that the doctor taking your calls knows that you are away.

4. Mrs. Smith had had abdominal surgery. Some weeks later she changed physicians and requested Dr. B to give her a physical examination. When he saw the scar, Dr. B whistled. Although he said nothing more to the patient, the seed of suspicion was implanted. After a costly malpractice suit it was found the original surgeon had done nothing wrong. The moral: don't whistle while you work!

5. The doctor was nettled when a patient complained that a skin dressing had burned him. "See my insurance agent," he barked. "I'm covered, and they'll take care of any complaints you have." The patient took him at his word;

the settlement was \$1,500.00. Situations of this type are quite common. An otherwise friendly patient is sure to be put in a litigious frame of mind by such a reception. The careless revelation of such information is inexcusable, and in most jurisdictions juries are not permitted to know if the defendant is covered; a mistrial can be declared if such information is openly revealed. Many complaints can be settled in a friendly discussion between doctor and patient for much less than a bitter court action or legal settlement would require. By all means, never tell a patient if you are or are not covered by malpractice insurance.

6. Dr. R found himself threatened with a malpractice suit when he attempted to enforce collection of his fee through an agency. Angered, the doctor instructed the agency to give the patient "the works"—harrassment and finally, a judgment suit enforced by garnishment of salary. The result: a malpractice suit. Dr. R made several mistakes: (1) he failed to appreciate that the use of indiscriminate collection methods may resolve the decision in the patient's mind as to a suit, (2) he failed to employ a collection agency of repute as reliable agencies with an understand of medical problems will not prosecute collection in such fashion, and (3) he failed to take advantage of a statute of limitations which provides for a shorter term on malpractice actions than for collection suits. By waiting two years after the last date of service, the Oklahoma doctor can sue with safety. Collection suits may be brought for three years after the last date of service.

7. A druggist misunderstood the doctor when the latter phoned in a prescription. The patient received a harmful drug which led to an involuntary abortion. While telephoned prescriptions are common in Oklahoma, absolute safety demands that prescriptions be written with a copy attached to the patient's permanent record.

These are but seven sample cases, yet all led to a malpractice suit. All have had their parallel in suits filed against doctors of Oklahoma. Unless a positive program of malpractice prevention is followed, similar cases will again be the basis for suit.



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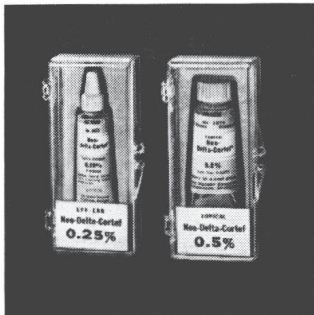
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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

County medical societies are the glory of American Medicine. A doctor has his friends, his clubs, and his social circles, but his interests are primarily in Medicine. His associates in the main are doctors and his conversation is about Medicine. The County Medical Society offers something essential in his life. Friendship and cooperation among physicians is helped by the Society meetings and a unity of purpose is fostered. In the County Medical Society we can meet without formality.

We can never read one per cent of all the medical literature in the many books and medical journals, but we can go to the Tulsa County Medical Society the second Monday of seven months during the year and hear an outstanding teacher inform us of the medical advances. It is a pleasure to meet and visit with him. A few minutes discussion with an authority will dispose of matters which would otherwise require endless correspondence.

By organization we secure respect and attention. All thinking people realize that the ever present search for new drugs, new operations and new vaccines, which is so rich and rewarding, is accomplished by members of the Medical Society. At the same time it is these same doctors who battle against charlatans and quackery in medical practice.

The Oklahoma State Medical Association meets May 6-9 at Oklahoma City, and a great time of fellowship and instruction awaits us. A fine program of scientific and social events has been arranged, and I hope that as many Tulsa doctors as possible will attend. It will be of material benefit to us scientifically, and it will be good to see old friends again.

Sincerely,



President



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# APRIL MEDICAL CALENDAR

## MONDAY, April 2nd:

Executive Committee Dinner Meeting, Hillcrest Medical Center, 6:00 P.M.  
 Staff Meeting, Hillcrest Medical Center, 8:00 P.M.  
 Medical Telecast, "Medic" series, Television Station KVOO, 8:00 P.M.

## TUESDAY, April 3rd:

St. John's Tumor Clinic, 8:00 A.M.  
 Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Diseases of the Thyroid." Speaker, Dr. William J. O'Meilia.

## WEDNESDAY, April 4th:

St. John's Isotope Clinic, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 Board of Trustees Meeting, Tulsa County Medical Society, Board Room, Utica Square National Bank Building, 1:00 P.M.  
 Postgraduate Study Lecture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 4:30 P.M. Subject: "Urological Procedures for the Hospital Patient." Speaker, Dr. Howard M. Cohenour.  
 Annual Meeting, Southern Branch, American Public Health Association, The Mayo, 9:00 A.M. Continues through April 6, 1956.

## THURSDAY, April 5th:

Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Treatment of Diseases of the Thyroid." Speaker, Dr. William J. O'Meilia.  
 Medical Motion Picture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 4:30 P.M. Subject: "Amputations for Occlusive Arterial Disease." Speaker, Dr. Myra A. Peters.

## FRIDAY, April 6th:

St. John's Isotope Committee Meeting, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 Postgraduate Study Course in Trauma, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Oklahoma City, 9:00 A.M. Continues through April 7th.  
 Fifth Annual Mental Health Institute, University of Tulsa, Student Activities Building, 9:30 P.M. For details see page 7.  
 St. John's Tumor Clinic, Clinical Conference, 9:30 A.M.  
 X-Ray Conference, Hillcrest Medical Center, 3:30 P.M.  
 Journal Club, Hillcrest Medical Center, 6:00 P.M. Subject: "Thromboembolic Diseases." Speakers, Dr. William J. Osher and Dr. Safety R. First.  
 Annual Doctors Day Dinner, Auxiliary to the Tulsa County Medical Society, Oaks Country Club, 6:00 P.M.

## MONDAY, April 9th:

Scientific Meeting, Tulsa County Medical Society, Blue Cross-Blue Shield Building, 1215 S. Boulder, 8:00 P.M. Subject: "Pancreatitis." Speaker, Dr. N. Kenneth Jensen, Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Minneapolis, Minnesota.  
 Medical Telecast, "Medic" series, Television Station KVOO, 8:00 P.M.

## TUESDAY, April 10th:

St. John's Tumor Clinic, 8:00 A.M.  
 Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Problem of Administration of Anesthesia in the Poor Risk Patient." Speaker, Dr. Howard A. Bennett.  
 Postgraduate Study Lecture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 5:30 P.M. Subject: "Coma." Speaker, Dr. Robert G. Tompkins.

## WEDNESDAY, April 11th:

St. John's Isotope Clinic, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 Postgraduate Short Course in Surgery, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Oklahoma City, 3:30 P.M. Subject: "Anticipation and Reduction of Surgical Risk." Speakers from University of Oklahoma faculty.  
 Clinical Pathological Conference, Hillcrest Medical Center, 7:30 P.M.

## THURSDAY, April 12th:

Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Problem of Administration of Anesthesia in the Poor Risk Patient." Part Two. Speaker, Dr. Howard A. Bennett.  
 Postgraduate Study Lecture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 12:30 P.M. Subject to be announced. Speaker, Dr. Martin Leibovitz.

## APRIL MEDICAL CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, April 13th:

St. John's Isotope Committee Meeting, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 St. John's Tumor Clinic, Clinical Conference, 9:30 A.M.  
 X-Ray Conference, Hillcrest Medical Center, 3:30 P.M.

### MONDAY, April 16th:

Eighth Annual Meeting, Southwestern Surgical Congress, opens at Tucson, Arizona.  
 Continues through April 18, 1956.

### TUESDAY, April 17th:

St. John's Tumor Clinic, 8:00 A.M.  
 Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Poliomyelitis."  
 Speaker, Dr. Rayburne W. Goen.  
 Board of Directors Meeting, Tulsa County Public Health Association, 807 South Peoria, 7:30 P.M.  
 Surgical Section Meeting, Hillcrest Medical Center, 7:30 P.M.  
 Copy deadline for the May issue of The Bulletin.

### WEDNESDAY, April 18th:

St. John's Isotope Clinic, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 Postgraduate Study Course, Hillcrest Medical Center, 4:30 P.M. Subject: "Urological Procedures for the Hospital Patient." Part Two. Speaker, Dr. Howard M. Cohenour.

### THURSDAY, April 19th:

Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Poliomyelitis."  
 Part Two. Speaker, Dr. Rayburne W. Goen.  
 Postgraduate Study Lecture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 4:30 P.M. Subject: "Closed Reduction of Forearm Fracture—Case Presentation." Speaker, Dr. Myra A. Peters.  
 Medical Postgraduate Conference, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Oklahoma City, 7:30 P.M. Subject: "Fits and Faints, Shakes and Shimmies, Dope and Drugs." Speakers, Drs. James F. Hammarsten, Richard E. Carpenter, John P. Colmore, and Richard B. Lincoln.

### FRIDAY, April 20th:

St. John's Isotope Committee Meeting, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 St. John's Tumor Clinic, Clinical Conference, 9:30 A.M.  
 X-Ray Conference, Hillcrest Medical Center, 3:30 P.M.  
 Journal Club, Hillcrest Medical Center, 6:00 P.M. Subject: "Indications for Gastrectomy." Speakers, Dr. James H. Neal, Jr., and Dr. Dave B. Lhevine.

### MONDAY, April 23rd:

Scientific Meeting, Tulsa Academy of General Practice, Hotel Tulsa, 6:30 P.M. Subject: "Fractures of the Hand and Wrist." Speaker, Dr. Guy A. Caldwell, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana.

### TUESDAY, April 24th:

St. John's Tumor Clinic, 8:00 A.M.  
 Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Peripheral Vascular Disease." Speaker, Dr. Benjamin W. Ward.  
 Postgraduate Study Lecture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 5:30 P. M. Subject: "Practical Office Treatment of Allergy." Speaker, Dr. Manuel Brown.  
 Obstetrical Section Meeting, Hillcrest Medical Center, 8:00 P.M.

### WEDNESDAY, April 25th:

St. John's Isotope Clinic, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 Medical Section Meeting, Hillcrest Medical Center, 6:15 P.M.

### THURSDAY, April 26th:

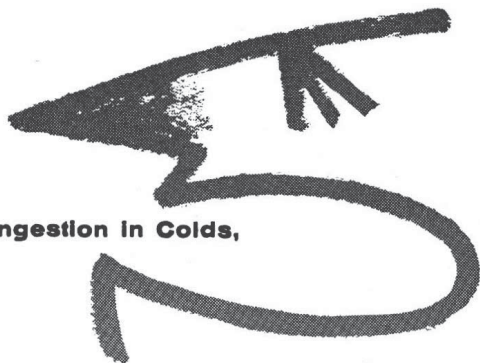
Interns and Residents Lecture, St. John's Hospital, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Peripheral Vascular Disease." Speaker, Dr. Benjamin W. Ward.  
 Medical Motion Picture, Hillcrest Medical Center, 12:30 P.M. Subject: "Segmented Pulmonary Resection." Speaker, Dr. Martin Leibovitz.

### FRIDAY, April 27th:

St. John's Isotope Committee Meeting, St. John's Hospital, 8:30 A.M.  
 St. John's Tumor Clinic, Clinical Conference, 9:30 A.M.  
 X-Ray Conference, Hillcrest Medical Center, 3:30 P.M.



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## NEW ORLEANS ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON TO SPEAK HERE

Dr. Guy A. Caldwell, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana, will be guest speaker for the Tulsa Academy of General Practice on Monday, April 23, 1956. His subject will be "Fractures of the Hand and Wrist."



Dr. Caldwell

The meeting will open with a dinner at 6:30 P.M. at Hotel Tulsa. Reservations are necessary and may be made by calling LUtHer 2-5904. The scientific program will be at 8:00 P.M. All medical doctors are invited to attend the dinner and program.

Dr. Caldwell is a native of Mississippi and received his medical degree at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Class of 1941. He interned at

Presbyterian Hospital of New York and later completed a surgical and orthopedic residency at Emory University Hospital at Atlanta. Dr. Caldwell was subsequently a member of the faculty of Emory University School of Medicine as Instructor in Orthopedics. He practiced in Decatur, Georgia, for two years and in 1921 entered practice at New Orleans. Dr. Caldwell is now Chairman of the Orthopedic Section of the Ochsner Clinic of New Orleans, and Visiting Orthopedic Surgeon at Charity Hospital and Touro Infirmary. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, member of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association, fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and member of numerous medical organizations in the field of orthopedic surgery.

## SURGICAL GROUP TO MEET

The International College of Surgeons has announced its Southeastern Regional Conference for April 30 - May 1, 1956, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. The program will feature seventeen scientific papers, three forum sessions, daily luncheon discussion sections, and exhibits. Speakers for the annual banquet on April 30th will be Dr. Max Thorek of Chicago, founder and Secretary General of the International College, and Dr. Ross T. McIntire, Chicago, Executive Director.

DR. ROBERT L. ANDERSON has been elected Medical Advisor to the Tulsa County Public Health Association. Re-elected as Directors of the organization for another year were DR. R. M. SHEPARD, DR. WALTER E. BROWN, DR. W. A. DEAN, and DR. T. PAUL HANEY.

DR. PAUL C. BENTON attended the annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association in New York, N. Y., March 15-17.

DR. LEONARD L. KISHNER, now serving with the United States Navy Medical Corps at San Diego, California, has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander. Dr. Kishner expects to return to Tulsa in August.

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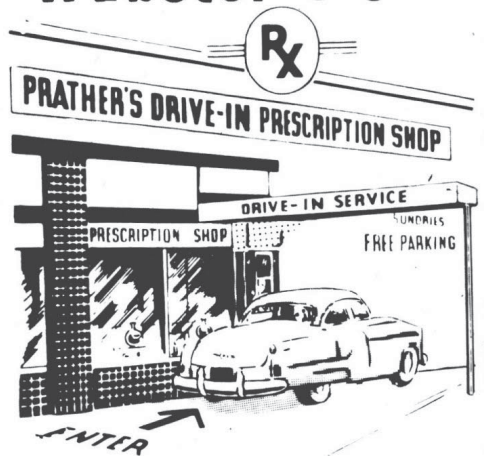
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# THE MEDICAL LIBRARY

Library of the Tulsa County  
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## GIFTS OF THE MONTH—:

- American Medical Association.** What Americans Think of the Medical Profession. A Public Relations Study for the American Medical Association. Two Parts. Chicago, Illinois, 1955.
- Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation of Eastern Oklahoma, Inc.** Collagen Diseases. Including Systemic Erythematosus, Periarteritis, Dermatomyositis, Systemic Scleroderma, Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura. By John H. Talbott, M.D., Professor of Medicine, University of Buffalo School of Medicine, Buffalo, N. Y., and R. Moleris Ferrandis, M.D., Training Fellow in Arthritis of the Western New York Chapter of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation. 232 pp., illustrated (part colored), Grune & Stratton, New York, N. Y., 1956.
- Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation of Eastern Oklahoma, Inc.** The Shoulder and Environs. By James E. Bateman, M.D., F.A.C.S. (C), Diplomate of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery. 565 pp., C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Missouri, 1955.
- Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation of Eastern Oklahoma, Inc.** The Diagnosis and Treatment of Posture Defects. By Winthrop Morgan Phelps, M.D., Medical Director, Children's Rehabilitation Institute for Cerebral Palsy, Baltimore, Maryland; Robert J. H. Kiphuth, M.D., and Charles Weer Goff, M.D. Second Edition, 190 pp., illustrated, references, Charles C. Thomas Company, Springfield, Illinois, 1956.
- Dr. Marque O. Nelson.** Biological Basis of Individuality. By Leo Loeb, Professor Emeritus of Pathology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. 711 pp., bibliography, Charles C. Thomas Company, Springfield, Illinois, 1945 (1947).
- Tulsa-Creek Counties Medical Auxiliary.** Supplemental pages for Brenneman's Practice of Pediatrics, Lewis' Practice of Surgery, and Tice's Practice of Medicine, 1956.
- United States Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.** National Research Council, Committee on Veterans Medical Problems: A Follow-Up Study of World War II Prisoners of War. By Bernard M. Cohen and Maurice Z. Cooper. 81 pp., Washington, D. C., 1955. Also: Tuberculosis in the Army of the United States in World War II; An Epidemiological Study with an Evaluation of X-Ray Screening. By Esmond R. Long and Seymour Joblon. 88 pp., Washington, D. C., 1955.
- International Poliomyelitis Congress.** Poliomyelitis: Papers and Discussions Presented at the Third International Poliomyelitis Conference. 567 pp., illustrated, J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1955.
- RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—:**
- Dr. Ernest S. Kerekes.** Stereofluoroscopic Spot Films. American Journal of Roentgenology, Radium Therapy and Nuclear Medicine, 75:141-143 (January) 1956.

Under new rules adopted last month by the Library Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees, borrowing privileges are restricted to members of the Tulsa County Medical Society. The facilities of the Library may be used on premises by members of the Tulsa County Dental Society and residents and interns of Tulsa hospitals. Visiting doctors may also use the Library. Arrangements may also be made for premises use of the Library by lay pathologists, registered technicians, and professional service representatives; persons desiring such privileges should consult with the Librarian.

The Library is otherwise closed to all lay persons. A lay person may apply for temporary library privileges by completion of a form supplied by the Librarian. This form must be signed by two members of the Tulsa County Medical Society who endorse the applicant's request. This application is then referred to the Library Committee for decision at its next regular meeting.

## Editorial

### A WORD OF THANKS

One of the best and most useful allies of Tulsa Medicine is to be found in the Tulsa Medical Service Association, an organization of twenty-six area detail men. Originally established to create uniform detailing practices and to eliminate abuses which reflected on the group as a whole, the Association has long since achieved this objective. In many ways

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it has given material assistance to the doctor and his assistants, donating not only time and effort but money as well. Many aspects of our public relations program have been possible through their cooperation. They can always be counted on to help publicize our scientific meetings, conventions and postgraduate courses. We are indebted to them for many delightful social favors, such as fellowship hours at our golf tournaments. The assistance given to the program of the Medical Assistants Society of Oklahoma by this group has been material.

Their good works are not all medical. For many years the detail men made it possible for patients of the Children's Medical Center to swim at the YWCA and YMCA pools, paying the cost of such privileges and arranging and supervising necessary transportation. Last month, the Association quietly did another good turn. Finding the Mohawk Girls Home of Tulsa in a dilapidated, rundown condition, the group spent \$500.00 to have the exterior refinished and painted. Their good work at the Home is not finished, however, and they plan further assistance to the institution for delinquent girls.

We think these professional service representatives deserve a good round of applause, not only from the doctor but from the community as well. The best way the physician can say thanks is to accord him the opportunity of a scheduled personal interview. Most doctors do this now, realizing that the message of the detail man is one of the best ways to stay abreast of medical progress. Those

*(Continued On Page 37)*

*Be Certain with Curtain*

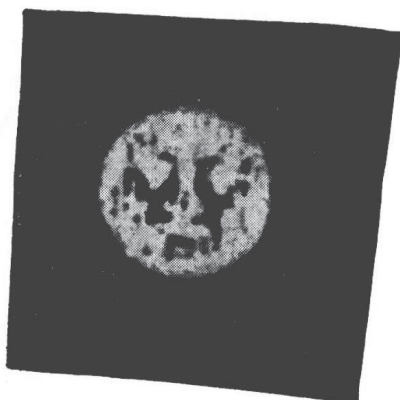
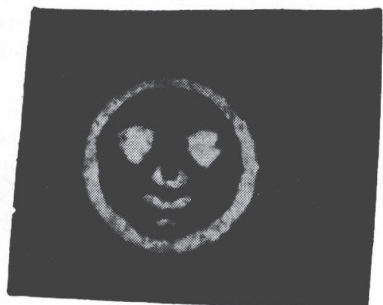
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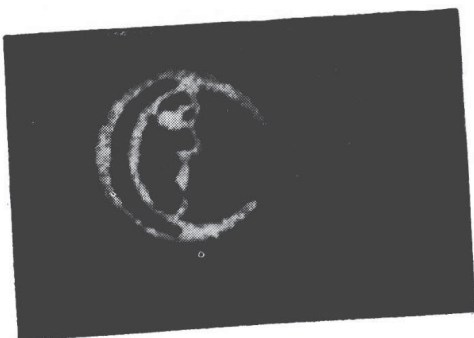
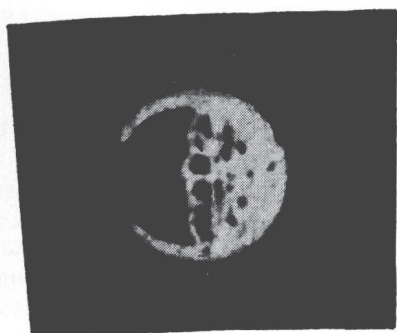
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DR. ROBERT L. ANDERSON was guest speaker for the Cherokee-Adair County Medical Society at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, February 15, 1956. His subject was "Newer Methods and Diagnosis of Pulmonary Diseases."

Guest speakers for the Central High School Pre-Med Club in February and March have included DR. CARL C. MORGAN, JR., DR. JAMES H. NEAL, JR., DR. DONALD V. CRANE, and DR. ROSS WALTZER of the Tulsa County Dental Society.

Tulsa doctors participating in the first of a series of joint physician-engineer seminars at St. John's Hospital on February 22, 1956, included DR. C. S. LEWIS, DR. ROBERT G. TOMPKINS, DR. HOMER A. RUPRECHT, DR. E. N. LUBIN, and DR. ERNEST S. KEREKES.

DR. JAMES W. KELLEY has been vacationing in Las Vegas, Nevada.

DR. MARSHALL O. HART attended the annual meeting of the American Academy of General Practice at Washington, D. C., March 19-22, where he served as Delegate from Oklahoma to the House of Delegates.

Tulsa physicians appearing before civic groups last month in behalf of the Tulsa County Heart Association campaign included DR. GERALD CRONK, DR. C. S. LEWIS, JR., DR. JAMES C. PETERS, DR. R. C. PIGFORD, and DR. DEAN C. WALKER. The campaign has raised \$3,013.01 to date.

DR. HARLAN THOMAS and DR. HALL KETCHUM have been vacationing at Hot Springs, Arkansas.

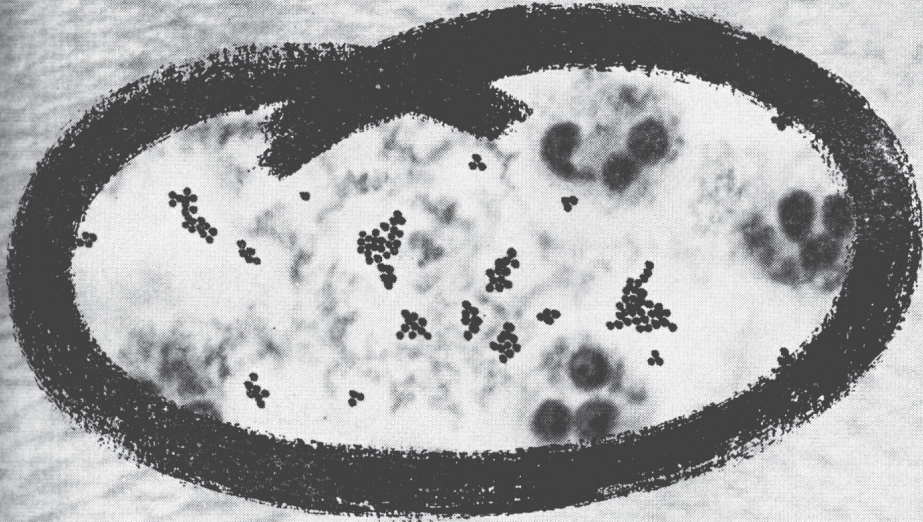
Speakers for the Tulsa Cerebral Palsy Association's Parent Education workshop on March 18th included DR. CHARLES E. BRIGHTON and DR. WALTER F. SETHNEY.

Named to the steering committee for a survey of indigent medical care being conducted by the Tulsa Council of Social Agencies in cooperation with the Tulsa County Medical Society and the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce are DR. HOMER A. RUPRECHT, DR. G. R. RUSSELL, DR. J. D. SHIPP, DR. EARL I. MULMED, DR. MARCELLA R. STEEL, DR. MARSHALL O. HART, and DR. E. N. LUBIN.





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\*Tronstein, A. J.: J. Invest. Dermat. 13:119, 1949.



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# BLOOD CENTER NEWS

## DISTRIBUTION & REPLACEMENT REPORT

February, 1956

Hospital:	Bloods Used:	Replacements:	% Repl.
St. John's .....	530	223	42.0%
Hillcrest .....	274	181	66.4%
Byrne .....	6	1	16.6%
Mercy .....	7	0	.....
Osteopathic .....	112	29	25.9%
Moton .....	12	3	60.0%
Broken Arrow .....	12	7	58.3%
Tulsa Osteo. ....	2	0	.....
Other .....	20	27	135.0%
Totals .....	968	471	48.6%

Most physicians, preoccupied with the day to day problems of medical practice, do not realize the extent of services rendered to patients by the Tulsa County Red Cross Blood Center. A tabulation of blood units actually used in Tulsa County hospitals during 1955 by types proves revealing:

O Plus, 4,972; A Plus, 4,126; O Minus, 1,080; B Plus, 1,012; A Minus, 820; AB Plus, 297; B Minus, 210; and AB Minus, 72.

By hospitals the totals are: St. John's, 6,941; Hillcrest, 4,160; Oklahoma Osteopathic, 809; Byrne, 255; Mercy, 162; Broken Arrow, 136; Moton, 49; Tulsa General Osteopathic, 77.

This is a total of 12,589 pints of blood actually used by patients and does not include 309 pints that were available and not used or 338 pints that were furnished for emergency cases in hospitals outside of Tulsa County.

The usage of blood at St. John's Hospital in 1955 increased 8.3% over the previous year, while Hillcrest Medical Center increased 15.7%. The total increase in blood made available for all purposes is 1,156 pints or a percentage increase of 8.7% over 1954.

On March 13, 1956, Dr. J. T. Tripp of the National Institutes of Health made an inspection visit to the Tulsa County Red Cross Blood Center. His comments were favorable. As this issue of The Bulletin went to press, the necessary exhaustive testing of a bottle of blood collected

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and processed at the Center were under way at the Division of Biologic Standards at Bethesda, Maryland. If these are as satisfactory as anticipated, the Center will receive its NIH license. Dr. Tripp stated during his Tulsa visit that there was no blood center in Oklahoma now licensed by the National Institutes of Health.

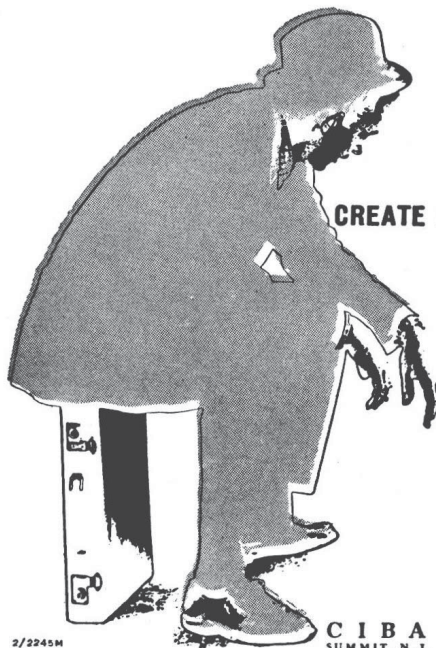
The Tulsa County Red Cross Center is now able to supply serum albumin to patients hospitalized in the blood program hospitals of Tulsa County. Since it is processed from blood collected from voluntary donors, there is no charge for the serum albumin itself. The standard administration fee to be charged by hospitals will be \$5.00. The patient receiving serum albumin is asked to send in one replacement blood donor for each unit of serum albumin he receives. The serum albumin is prepared from blood outdated or otherwise unsuitable for whole blood transfusions. The processing is started at the Tulsa County Red Cross Blood Center under the most rigid standards of time, sterility, culturing, and meticulous records. The processing is finished by chemical facilities operated by established pharmaceutical companies under licenses granted by various divisions of the federal government to insure safety and potency of the product. The serum albumin is supplied in a unit with all necessary reservoir, tubing and needles, ready for injection. It must be kept refrigerated under the same conditions as whole blood.

The serum albumin is normal serum albumin (human), concentrated, salt-poor, 25 grams in 100cc solution, osmotically equivalent to 500cc of plasma. There is also a smaller size, five grams in 20cc solution. The Tulsa County Red Cross Blood Center has on hand a supply of serum albumin for current patients in Tulsa County hospitals and a reserve supply for use in emergency or disaster situations in this area.

DR. BERGET H. BLOCKSOM suffered slight injuries in an automobile accident at Fort Smith, Arkansas, last month.

DR. WILLIAM S. CRAWFORD will retire as Medical Director of Carter Oil Company on May 1st.





2/2245M

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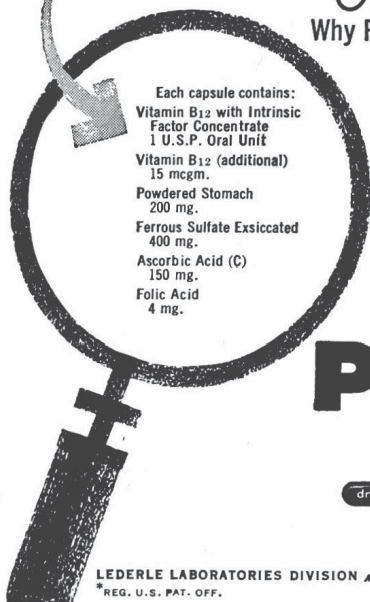
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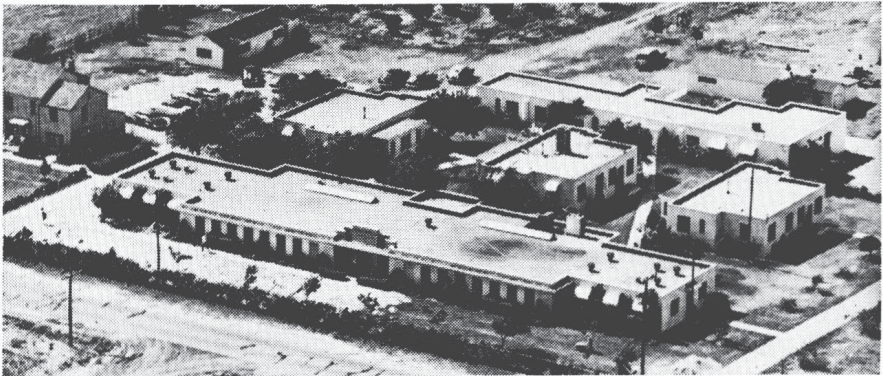
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## NEW APPLICANTS

The following physician is an applicant for membership in the Tulsa County Medical Society.

*William B. Scimeca, M.D.*, 3102 South Harvard, Tulsa. Medical Degree, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas City, Kansas, 1944. Interned Jersey City Medical Center and Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital, Jersey City, New Jersey, 1944-45. In private practice, Moline, Kansas, 1946-48; Sedan, Kansas, 1948-52. Resident in Surgery, Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minnesota, 1952-56. Specialty, General Surgery. Military Service, United States Army, 1943-44, rank of First Lieutenant. Recommended by Dr. F. L. Flack and Dr. Robert G. Tompkins.



### EDITORIALS

*(Continued From Page 28)*

who don't are neglecting an obligation to the professional service representative and to himself as well. The next time the detail man calls on you let him know that you appreciate what he is doing for you and for the profession.

#### A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY

By action of the Board of Trustees, the Tulsa County Medical Society went on record last month as favoring the payment by county commissioners of the actual cost of hospitalization rendered to indigent patients. The issue of whether or not hospitals continue to accept the token payment of the commissioners, frequently as little as a third of actual cost, seems headed for a long overdue show-down. In joining forces with the hospitals, the Society is following the only course which appears morally justified.

With per patient day costs in Tulsa County hospitals now averaging \$20.00,

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it does not take a slide rule to compute that the standard payment of \$7.00 by the County leaves the hospital with a \$13.00 deficit. Since hospitals have but one source of income—from their patients—it is obvious that the private patient, already burdened by costs of illness, is being saddled with this deficit. This is not fair to the hospital, the private patient, or the doctor, who in the end will be blamed for the high cost of medical care. The situation conspires with the taxpayer to evade a legal responsibility to care for the sick.

The action of the Board of Trustees calls for payment of the actual costs of the actual care rendered to the hospitalized indigent. This is not to say that the Board recommends payment at an average per patient day rate. The cost should be based on the type of facilities—as a rule, four to six bed wards—plus the cost of all special services rendered to the patient as laboratory, X-ray, operating room, etc. In any event, the amount paid by the County should not be less than the actual costs of such services.

We believe the Board of County Commissioners and the hospitals can—and must—arrive at some solution to this problem. Each must take proper cognizance of the problems of the other. The Commissioners, entrusted with the responsibility of operating the County within tax revenues, have a definite problem in determining the source of the additional funds necessary to pay a higher rate. The hospitals, struggling to keep pace with the growth of Tulsa and the progress of modern scientific medicine, must operate on a businesslike basis or face bankruptcy. The solution, if not readily apparent, is necessary and urgent. We believe that it can come about through cooperation and mutual respect of the parties concerned.

DR. DAVID V. HUDSON was luncheon speaker for the Hungry Club of Tulsa on February 22nd.

DR. R. M. SHEPARD attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Tuberculosis Association in New York, N. Y., February 15-16.





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**WANTED: A HELPING HAND**

The palmy days for entering practice in Tulsa are gone. From the close of World War II to 1953, new physicians had little difficulty in establishing themselves here. Aided by a booming population and the doctor shortage resulting from the war, Tulsa quickly assimilated the newcomers. For most the lean days were few. In the past two or three years the situation has materially changed as the profession approached a saturation point. Except in a few specialties (notably Psychiatry and Ophthalmology), most new specialists have found the going a bit tough and still highly competitive. Recently, the situation has become sufficiently acute (in one specialty at least) for discouraged newcomers to move to other areas. There is little question but that future newcomers to Tulsa Medicine entering practice without the benefit of an association with an established doctor will find it increasingly difficult to build their practice to a profitable point.

This is not to say that newcomers to Tulsa should be discouraged for these

young men and women are the life blood of the profession. Recognizing that a similar situation now exists in most comparable American cities, young doctors will continue to select Tulsa as the site of their practice. Most will prove successful and take their place in Tulsa Medicine despite the first few lean months when patients are few and far between.

Most doctors in Tulsa entered practice under similar circumstances. The young medical graduate of the twenties and the depression-ridden thirties will have no difficulty in remembering his early experiences. The situation is perhaps more serious today for the high fixed overhead costs necessitate that a newcomer have an ample backlog of funds or quickly attain a profitable level of practice; while expenses are much higher today than in the thirties, medical fees are only slightly increased. Most new doctors have no such backlog of funds; except for military service, few have earned more than the token sums of intern and resident training. Many are indebted for their medical education and the costs of equipping an office. The problem for caring for their family during the first few profitless months becomes the major consideration.

A Tulsa doctor has suggested that more consideration should be shown for these newcomers to Tulsa Medicine by referring them at least one patient during their first month of practice. It would be a gesture of welcome from men who have, for the most part, experienced similar problems. Neither would there be any penalty to the referring physician in most cases. To the established physician the loss of that patient will be negligible.

Too often in the rush of a busy practice we tend to forget the problems of these young men seeking to find a home in Tulsa. It is only when they find it necessary to try their fortunes in other areas that we realize our loss. A helping hand, a tangible act of friendship, should be part of our obligation to each other as men of medicine. It is something that will be appreciated and which, in time, will lead to a more unified and responsible medical profession in Tulsa.

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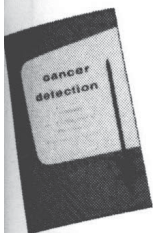


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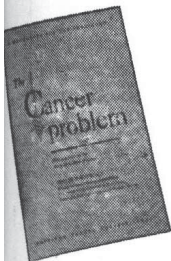
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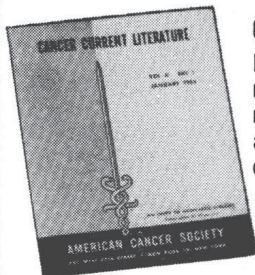
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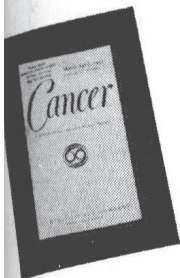
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*Coming up! The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma State Medical Association in Oklahoma City, May 6-9, 1956. Make your plans now to attend this fine meeting.*

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