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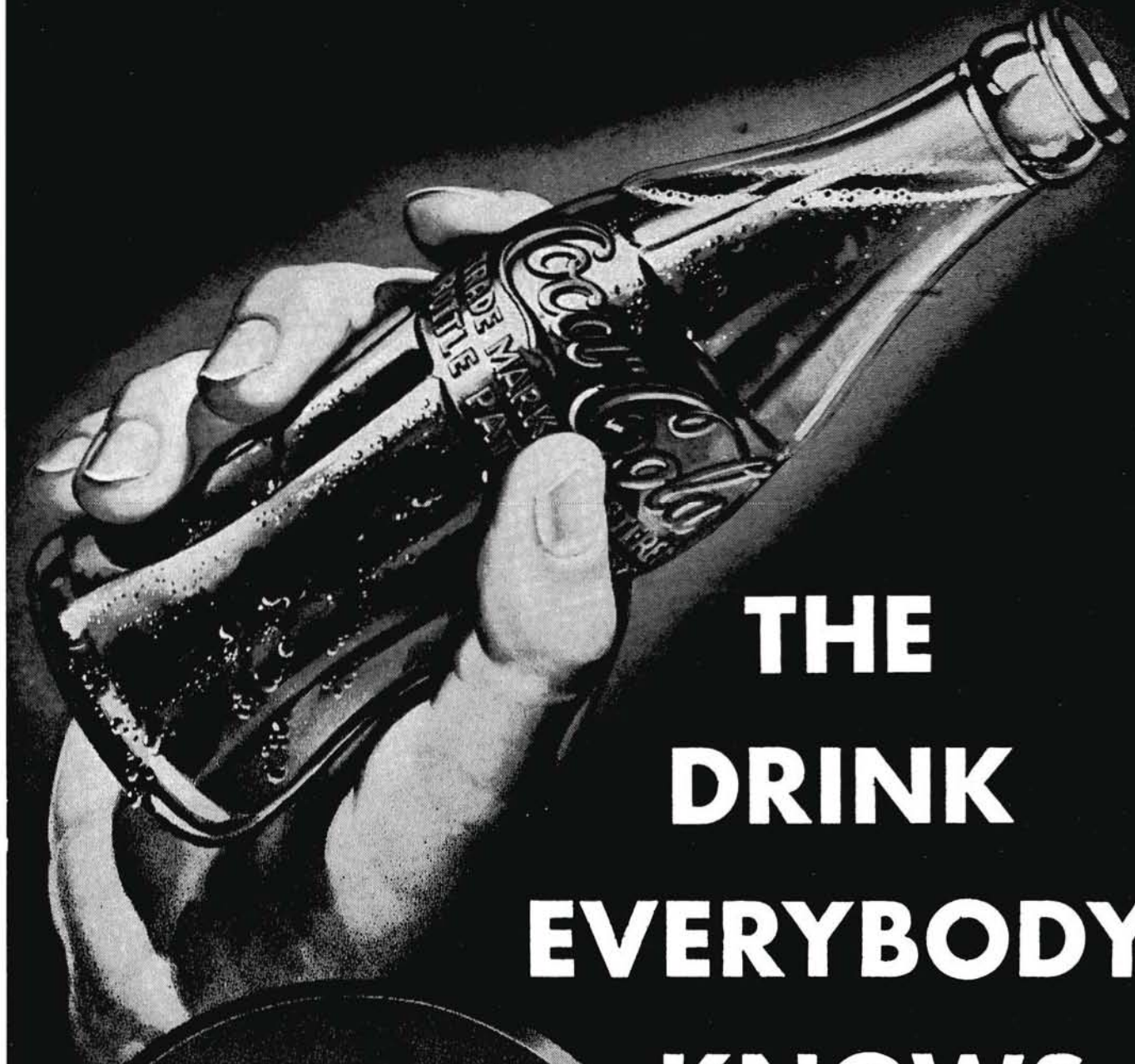
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# THE BULLETIN

OF THE

## TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

J. C. Brogden, M.D., *President*H. B. Stewart, M.D., *President Elect*Gifford Henry, M.D., *Vice-President*Roy L. Smith, M.D., *Secretary-Treasurer*LLOYD STONE, *Executive Secretary*

VOL. 7

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, FEBRUARY, 1941

No. 2

## Annual Banquet Is Huge Success

Tom Collins, associate editor of the *Kansas City Journal*, is outstanding hit as new officers take over helm of Medical Society at Inaugural Party at Mayo Hotel.

With a record attendance hanging convulsed on every word, Tom Collins, associate editor of the *Kansas City Journal* and outstanding as a public speaker, carried the Annual Inaugural Banquet Party held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Mayo Hotel on January 13th to a new high in entertainment and marked it as a huge success from every standpoint.

Even before Dr. Roy L. Smith, who presided over the affair as toastmaster in a manner that stamped him as an expert, brought down his gavel to get the affair under way, it was apparent that this banquet and dance would surpass all previous affairs of its kind. The Crystal Ballroom, a sea of candle-flame and flowers arranged by Mrs. Peale of the Mary-Peale Florists, was filled with almost 225 doctors, their wives and guests.

Preceding Mr. Collins, retiring president, Dr. R. C. Pigford, outlined the many outstanding accomplishments of the closing year and turned the gavel over to Dr. J. C. Brogden, incoming president, who discussed some of his principal objectives of the coming year and introduced his supporting officers and members of the Board of Trustees.

From the moment the speaker greeted his presentation by Dr. Roy Smith with the comment that, "That was about as neat a job of verbal malpractice as I

have ever heard," Mr. Collins proceeded to get the audience on his side and kept it there for almost an hour. Carrying the audience along in convulsions of laughter by his clever stories and observations, Mr. Collins continued to lay the framework for a more serious background of his talk by weaving an important formula for "Successful Worrying" in and out of his talk.

Following the dinner program, the floor was cleared and the large crowd danced until early in the morning. For those who did not dance, bridge was played in the Ladies Lounge.

And from every person who bit into the roasted chicken came the refrain throughout the evening—"The Affair Is Certainly a Grand Success."

### CONVENTION PAPERS

All doctors who wish to appear on the Surgical Section of the Oklahoma State Medical Association in May are requested to submit in advance a synopsis of their address not later than February 15.

This will enable the committee to select a diversified program. Please mail this material to Dr. Raymond L. Murdock, Medical Arts Bldg., Oklahoma City, chairman of the Section on Surgery.

# Income Tax Returns Due March 15th

Executive Secretary will assist members in every way possible in making out annual return; survey shows scope of exemption allowed professional men.

The open season on State and Federal Income and other tax returns has opened in full force and between now and March 15 of this year, every married person with a gross income of \$2,000.00 or more and every single person with a gross income of \$800.00 or more will be called upon to make an income tax return to both the state and the Federal Government regardless of whether he is forced to pay a tax on the net income or not.

In order to assist members of the Tulsa County Medical Society, the Executive Secretary is making arrangements to cooperate with and help any member wishing advice or assistance. While it would be impossible to actually make out returns for all members, the Executive Secretary will be glad to discuss any point with anyone. In addition, if you wish to receive a "work-sheet" with some suggestions for items which are allowable deductions they are available at the Society's offices. Such a work-sheet will materially assist in collecting and tabulating figures which will be necessary in making out your report. Arrangements are also being made for a limited supply of forms which will be available at the office.

It would be impossible to properly discuss any one phase of your income tax in a short article in this Bulletin, but it will be possible to point out a few of the outstanding points involved.

The law clearly sets out just what items must be included in taxable income for tax purposes. Generally, this includes such items as gross income from your medical profession (actual cash received during the fiscal year); income received from county, state or federal government; income from rents, etc.; interest items; certain dividends; gains and profits from sale of any type of property; and income from non-exempt bonds.

1. You are exempt to the extent of \$400 for each person (child or adult) dependent upon you for support.

2. All expenses incurred in the actual operation of your professional practice, and includes all salaries, wages, commissions, etc.; rent, alterations to your office if you pay expense, minor equipment not permanent in nature, subscription to medical magazines and purchase of books, depreciation on office and medical equipment and your library, bonuses to employees, cost of collection of accounts, etc.

3. You may deduct the upkeep, depreciation, gasoline, oil, insurance premiums, license fee, drivers license fee of your automobile when used in making business and professional calls, where other use of the automobile is merely incidental. If you use car for purposes other than business, you may deduct only a proportionate amount from the returns.

4. All taxes paid are deductible. These include federal and state taxes such as ad valorem taxes, sales tax, state and federal gasoline tax, personal taxes, intangible tax, Social Security Tax, etc.

5. Another main heading of deductions is contributions and dues which will include Medical Society dues, county, state and national, Community Fund and other charities, Chamber of Commerce, other clubs or organizations which you maintain membership for business purposes.

6. Among other deductions allowed are the following: Bad debts or losses, premium on malpractice insurance, traveling expense in connection with profession or business, investment losses, percentage on telegrams and long distance calls, postage, percentage on theater tickets, uniforms furnished by you for employees, bank check charges, etc.

# Clinic Staffs Organized For 1941

**Dr. S. C. Shepard replaces Dr. A. W. Pigford as chairman of General Clinic Committee; Sections prepare for year's activities by naming chiefs of each department.**

The stage has been cleared for the successful operation of the Tulsa County Free Medical Clinic and County Indigent program through the appointment of the General Clinic Committee by President Brogden and the election of the various Section Chiefs by the separate departments.

Succeeding Dr. A. W. Pigford, who has acted as general chairman of the Clinic Committee for the past three years and who has carried a large part of the load during the first year of the Clinic's operation, will be Dr. S. C. Shepard. Dr. Shepard has been in the clinic "picture" from the outset and has served on the committee since its inception. With Dr. Shepard will be Dr. Henry S. Browne and Dr. P. P. Nesbitt.

Working as a sub-committee and in an advisory capacity throughout the year will be the following Section Chiefs who will serve as heads of their respective departments for 1941: PEDIATRICS, Dr. D. J. Underwood; SURGERY, Dr. A. Ray Wiley; ANAESTHESIA, Dr. H. B. Stewart; UROLOGY, Dr. J. W. Rogers; INTERNAL MEDICINE, Dr. R. C. Pigford; OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY, Dr. J. A. Paden; EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT, Dr. Charles Haralson; DERMATOLOGY, Dr. W. A. Showman; X-RAY, Dr. W. S. Larrabee; NEUROLOGY, Dr. Ned R. Smith; PROCTOLOGY, Dr. V. K. Allen; VARICOSE CLINIC, Dr. R. Q. Atchley; and CARDIAC CLINIC, Dr. R. C. Pigford.

Following are the doctors who have served on various clinic staffs:

**INTERNAL MEDICINE:** Dr. Cameron, Dr. Norman, Dr. Branley, Dr. Hoover, Dr. Lee, Dr. Turnbow, Dr. F. L. Underwood, Dr. LeMaster, Dr. Atkins, Dr. Denny, Dr. Hyatt, Dr. Markland, Dr. Schreck, Dr. Zink, Dr.

S. C. Shepard, Dr. Clulow, Dr. Flanagan, Dr. Eason.

**UROLOGY**—Dr. Cohenour, Dr. Fulcher, Dr. Browne, Dr. Ament, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Swanson.

**GYNECOLOGY — OBSTETRICS**—Dr. Ward, Dr. Sipple, Dr. Henderson, Dr. P. G. Murray, Dr. Sinclair, Dr. Wallace, Dr. E. O. Johnson, Dr. Peden, Dr. Eads.

**NEUROLOGY:** Dr. Ned R. Smith, Dr. Ungerman.

**TUMOR**—Dr. McGill, Dr. A. W. Pigford.

**PEDIATRICS**—Dr. Underwood, Dr. Searle, Dr. Reese, Dr. Edwards, Dr. Hays, Dr. Graham, Dr. Bradley.

**DERMATOLOGY**—Dr. Stevenson, Dr. M. O. Nelson, Dr. Green, Dr. Showman.

**NOSE AND THROAT**—Dr. A. H. Davis, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Dunlap, Dr. Berger, Dr. Hammond, Dr. H. C. Childs, Dr. Braswell, Dr. W. N. Jones, Dr. Ruric Smith.

**EYE**—Dr. Haralson, Dr. Evans, Dr. D. L. Edwards, Dr. Stallings, Dr. Gorrell, Dr. Mishler, Dr. Reynolds, Dr. Cook, Dr. Stuard, Dr. Huber.

**SURGERY**—Dr. Chas. Johnson, Dr. Carl Hotz, Dr. Roy Smith, Dr. Witcher, Dr. Henry, Dr. McGill, Dr. Black, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. T. H. Davis, Dr. H. Lee Farris, Dr. R. B. Ford, Dr. D. L. Garrett, Dr. Paul Grosshart, Dr. Hardman, Dr. Hoke, Dr. P. P. Nesbitt, Dr. Fred Perry, Dr. Hugh Perry, Dr. John Perry, Dr. Rushing, Dr. Shipp, Dr. Spann, Dr. Walker, Dr. Thomas West, Dr. Eric White, Dr. Ewell, Dr. A. Ray Wiley.

**VARICOSE**—Dr. Atchley, Dr. Akin.

**PROCTOLOGY**—Dr. Allen, Dr. Fulcher.

**CARDIAC**—Dr. R. C. Pigford, Dr. Ruprecht.

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

A glance through this issue of The Bulletin discloses that a large portion is devoted to the appointment and activities of the standing committees of the Tulsa County Medical Society. This has been done intentionally because the entire load of activities of the Medical Society is carried on the shoulders of the committee chairmen and members.

In starting out a new year, it is quite important that we lay the proper ground work for a successful administration. Whatever is to be accomplished, will be accomplished by the committees. That is the way the Medical Society proceeds in its march forward.

At this time I would like to call upon the chairman of each committee to call an organization meeting at once and lay out its course of action. The facilities of our executive office are at your disposal, and I am standing by to help in any way I may.

When the end of the year rolls around the accomplishments of the Tulsa County Medical Society will be in direct ratio to the efforts of our committees.

Fraternally yours,



President



# Medical Calendar

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**SATURDAY, Feb. 1st:**

Radio Broadcast at 3:15 p.m. Station KTUL. Dr. H. Lee Farris.

---

**MONDAY, Feb. 3rd:**

Hillcrest Hospital Staff Meeting.

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**TUESDAY, Feb. 4th:**

Clinic Meeting, 1202 Medical Arts Bldg., 12:30 p.m.  
Mercy Hospital Staff Meeting.

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**FRIDAY, Feb. 7th:**

Trustee Meeting, 1202 Medical Arts Bldg., 12:30 p.m.

---

**SATURDAY, Feb. 8th:**

Radio Broadcast at 3:15 p.m. Station KTUL. Dr. R. M. Shepard.

---

**MONDAY, Feb. 10th:**

Tulsa County Medical Society Meeting, Mayo Hotel, 8:00 p.m.

---

**SATURDAY, Feb. 15th:**

Radio Broadcast at 3:15 p.m. Station KTUL. Dr. W. H. Wilson.

---

**MONDAY, Feb. 17th:**

St. Johns Hospital Staff Meeting.

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**TUESDAY, Feb. 18th: ....**

Flower Hospital Staff Meeting.  
Office Assistant's Meeting. Michaelis Cafeteria at 6:00 p.m.

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**FRIDAY, Feb. 21st:**

Trustee Meeting, 1202 Medical Arts Bldg., 12:30 p.m.

---

**MONDAY, Feb. 24th:**

Tulsa County Medical Society Meeting, Mayo Hotel, 8:00 p.m.

**The BULLETIN***Editorial**Committee*.....

F. L. UNDERWOOD, M. D.,  
Chairman  
CARL J. HOTZ, M. D.  
G. H. HENRY, M. D.

*Managing Editor*.....LLOYD STONE

*Published monthly on the 3rd day of each month, at the executive offices of the Tulsa County Medical Society, 1202 Medical Arts Building, Tulsa, Oklahoma.*

VOL. 7      FEBRUARY, 1941      No. 2

**A VERY WORTHWHILE ORGANIZATION**

We want to take time out to congratulate the girls—medical and dental assistants—who are so much interested in their own welfare and the welfare of the profession in which they help that they take their own time to meet, hear inspirational and educational talks, trade experiences in order that they may keep a proper perspective of their work.

The official publication of this group—**THE REPORTER**—is outstanding. This mimeographed bulletin is well edited, educational and entertaining. One glance at the December issue would convince any doubting Thomasines of the value of the organization behind the publication.

The Tulsa County Medical and Dental Assistants is a worthwhile organization. It is performing a fine job. It is making it possible for its members to study and look ahead. Every office assistant in Tulsa County should belong to this organization. This is not another meet-and-eat club or talk-and-play group. It is going places.

**When Congress Passes a Law** relating to business, you as a business man know pretty well what the effect

of that law will be.

But experience has shown that members of Congress do *not* always know how and why their legislative acts will affect business, unless business men write and tell them.

Your views are always welcome, for the men who stay in Congress the longest are those who read and heed their constituent's letters. **BUT** there's a right way to write effectively to your Congressman. May we offer these suggestions:

**Do**

- spell your Congressman's name correctly.
- make sure whether he is a Senator or a Representative.
- state concisely what you think and why—the briefer, the better.
- subordinate your self-interest.
- be sure of your facts.
- cite specific illustrations, whenever possible, as to effects proposed legislation would have on business and workers in your community.
- write on your business stationery.
- sign your name plainly. Type it under the signature.
- send a letter rather than a telegram when time permits.
- seize every opportunity to become personally acquainted with your Congressman.

**Don't**

- threaten political reprisals.
- write in a captious or belligerent mood.
- remind your Congressman of broken promises.
- attempt to speak for anybody but yourself.
- insert newspaper clippings or mimeograph material.
- send a chain letter or postcard.
- quote from form letters.
- write only when you want a favor. Letters of commendation are always welcome.
- try to make an errand boy out of your Congressman.
- become a chronic letter writer.



Dr. Gifford Henry  
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# Report "Intangibles" By March 1st

Accounts receivable on your books must be reported again this year; Valuation of 25 per cent of face amount accepted by Equalization Board last year.

That "Intangible Tax" headache is with us again, and every doctor is required to report all of the accounts receivable on his books to the assessor with a report of other personal property before March 1, 1941, or find himself unable to sue on and collect any of the accounts.

Last year we conducted a survey of accounts receivable on physicians' books in order to determine in some measure just what these accounts were worth for tax purposes. After considerable work, it was determined that on an average of all accounts on a doctor's books the actual value of these accounts for tax purposes was 25 per cent of their face value or even less.

Upon these findings we advised doctors to use the following figures in compiling the value of their accounts:

Accounts under 3 months old	50%
Accounts 3 months to 1 year old	30%
Accounts over 1 year old	10%
Or average on all accounts	25%

After returns were made and valuations reported based on these figures, they were arbitrarily increased in the Assessor's Office. An appeal was then made to the Equalization Board and this Board agreed that this increase was not justified and reduced the valuation figures back to 25 per cent of their face value. This was done in all cases where an appeal was made.

This year again we have received a large number of calls from the membership relative to this valuation rate. We believe that a 25 per cent valuation is extremely fair—and in most cases too high—and suggest that doctors base their valuations on the above scale.

Of course, these figures may be high or low, according to the type of accounts on your books. If you feel your accounts

are worth more (or are worth less) than this figure, it is your duty to make such a valuation. The law requires that you list all accounts receivable at their face value and also at their fair cash value, estimated at the price they would bring at a voluntary sale.

The law provides penalties for evasion. When a person fails to list an account, he will be stopped from bringing a suit in the future to force the collection thereof. For this reason, we suggest that each doctor make a typewritten list of all accounts upon which he pays this ad valorem tax, and that he be certain that the total amount on the list is the same figure as the total value listed in his tax return. This will eliminate future trouble in proving you paid tax on any account in question. This list should not be filed with your tax return.

There has been some suggestion made that the tax might be lowered by the present legislature, but this is extremely unlikely. You should prepare your list as soon as possible and file it with the Assessor's office in the Court House any time before March 1st.

**A. S. Aloe Co.**

ST. LOUIS

**W. L. Edelen**

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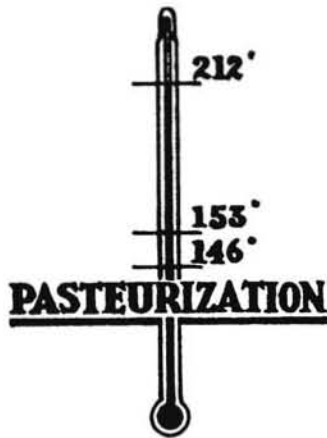
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# Heavy Program of Work For '41

Committees given outline of special activities for current year by President Brogden; Many important events will make 1941 an outstanding year.

Getting into the harness early in the year, Dr. J. C. Brogden wrote a letter to each of his committee chairmen urging them to call their committee members together in the immediate future and outlined a number of major projects which will vitalize the program as he has outlined it for the year of 1941.

Of special importance is the special activities suggested for the Library, Medical Clinic, Bulletin, Credit Bureau, and Publicity Committees during the year just ahead. In addition to these, he suggested many projects to each of the other committees to round-out an outstanding year's work for the Medical Society under the present regime.

Following are excerpts from letters to committee chairmen which will give some idea of the wide scope of special activities to be undertaken by the various committees:

**LIBRARY**—1. The improvement of our Library and its facilities is the most important project ahead of us at the present time. Our present facilities are woefully inadequate for a group as large as ours.

2. I would recommend the immediate employment of a competent full-time librarian. It would be her duty to catalogue, classify, index and supervise the library at all times. It would be her duty to check out all books and to see they were returned.

3. A competent librarian should be able to assist all doctors in finding articles and information on any medical subject and to assist with the preparation of any scientific paper or library research.

4. It would be necessary to proceed at once with the addition of new space to our present library and to provide additional facilities in the way of book

shelves, tables, chairs, reading lights, etc.

**LIABILITY INSURANCE**—1. It shall be the duty of this committee to direct and supervise all matters relative or affecting Malpractice Insurance as it relates to members of this organization. It shall be your especial duty to work out and perfect unfinished details relative to our Oklahoma Group Malpractice Policy.

**HOSPITAL INSURANCE**—1. Work with the Group Hospital Service organization and serve as a liaison group between that organization and the Tulsa County Medical Society.

2. It is especially important that your group work with the officers of Group Hospital Service in aiding in the presentation of medical advice or suggestions to any industrial firms wanting medical or hospital insurance help or advice.

**BULLETIN**—Continue the publication of the Bulletin in its present form.

2. I might suggest that an effort be made to secure material or articles from our members relative to incidents of their early practice; formation of this organization; or other personal items of interest.

3. It has been suggested that we offer other county Societies in this section of the state space each month to carry announcements of their Society Programs and other items of interest.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**—1. Your principal duties will consist of standing by in readiness to prepare, pass on or censor articles of newspaper publicity.

2. Your committee should cooperate with the radio stations and the preparation of radio programs. It might be possible now to arrange with KOMA for the broadcast of the A.M.A. program received over the National Broadcasting Blue Network on Wednesday nights.

3. Cooperate with the newspapers in the publication of our annual medical edition and in the preparation of any other material which is proper.

PROGRAM—1. First, I believe I would recommend the continuation of our policy of bringing an outstanding out-of-town guest speaker to our regular meetings on the second meeting of each month. This would require about seven such speakers, and should be distributed among the various specialties when at all possible.

2. It might be possible to utilize cases worked up or seen in the Medical Clinic for exhibit and short papers when there are cases available which would merit the time and attention. These should be presented at the first meeting of the month when possible, but unless very important or interesting should be made as short as possible.

3. Scientific programs for the first meeting of each month should be local, or from our own membership. It would be necessary to provide 8 or 9 such programs and I believe it would be possible to secure that many interesting papers from our own membership. Included in this list might be a program in cooperation with the Cancer Committee; the Pharmaceutical Relations Committee; the Dental Society and possibly other groups.

CREDIT BUREAU—1. It is important that your committee proceed at once to supervise the operation of the Medical Credit Bureau and place it upon a sound footing. I cannot emphasize too much the importance of proceeding immediately with this job.

2. I believe the scope of this organization can be enlarged to a place where it will be more valuable to every member of the Tulsa County Medical Society.

3. This is one of the most important activities of the Medical Society and it should be built up to the place where it will receive the increased support of the members of this organization.

CLINIC—1. I believe it is very im-

portant that this committee work closely with the County Physician and the heads of each special group in the clinic.

2. It is important to keep a close check on the purchase of drugs and the expenditures against the Drug Account in order that this fund is not depleted before June 30. This also is important in connection with the funds set up for the operation of the Clinic as well as for the Hospital Accounts.

3. Cooperate with each department head in seeing that there is a rotating staff in each specialty large enough to care for the patient load.

4. You should proceed at once in seeing that the improvements which have been planned are carried out at once.

5. The general operation of all matters pertaining to the Clinic are in your hands and the continued success and smooth operation of the clinic and all its departments depends largely upon the efforts of your committee.

GOLF—1. I believe we should continue our golf tournaments regularly and that more attention should be paid to development of interest in them. In the past it has been customary to hold two tournaments each year: (1) the Medical Society tournament about the middle of April and (2) the Medical-Dental Tournament in September.

2. Plans for these tournaments should be made a month or more in advance so that plenty of publicity could be given them at the regular Medical Society meetings and also in the Bulletin. I think this is very important and would add a lot of rivalry and interest in the events.

LEGISLATIVE—2. There are a number of measures which will be introduced during the present session of the legislature which will affect physicians and the practice of medicine. It is vital your committee keep in touch with all such matters.

3. It is quite likely that one or two measures may be introduced in the legislature which will affect only local conditions in Tulsa County, such as a

County Hospital or other similar projects. You should lend your aid to these measures and work with the Tulsa County Legislators for their passage.

CONSTITUTION—1. There is one proposed change in the Constitution of this organization pending at present. Work with the out-going committee on this matter.

2. Prepare any proposed changes which may be presented to your committee during the year.

CIVIC RELATIONS—1. Arrange to have a medical speaker appear before the various civic clubs and women's organizations during the year. Try and work out a plan to bring an outstanding speaker to Tulsa during the year to appear at one of the Open Forum Meetings of the Chamber of Commerce.

2. We have sufficient copies of the pamphlet, "Our Priceless Heritage" which could be distributed at these meetings where you have a speaker.

3. Work with the Cancer, Legislative, Tuberculosis and other committees which may need to present their own programs before any civic organizations.

TUBERCULOSIS — 1. This committee should work as a liason group between the Tulsa County Medical Society and the national Tuberculosis organization.

2. One of the meetings of the year should be devoted to a paper or symposium on Tuberculosis and it would be advisable to work with the Program Committee on this matter. It is quite possible that you can secure Dr. Baker of Talahina for the speaker of the evening to outline what is being done in Oklahoma in caring for Tuberculosis patients and what else should be done.

CANCER — 1. Work closely with the Tumor Clinic of the County Free Medical Clinic. This special clinic is growing by leaps and bounds and there is a great need for additional help there.

2. Prepare a scientific program from material that may present itself at the Free Clinic. It might be possible to secure enough material from unusual or interesting cases to be worthwhile for all

of us. You might be able to have a number of our doctors who are working in this clinic to prepare an interesting program, with possible pictures and charts.

3. Prepare a study of cancer cases, operations, deaths, etc., for Tulsa County during the past year.

RURAL AFFAIRS—1. At present there are no problems or questions facing the Society which require your attention. However, if your group has any suggestions or questions of particular import, I would urge you to present them to the Board of Trustees at any time.

MILK—1. I would recommend that your committee continue the study into the advisability of insisting that all milk sold in the city of Tulsa be pasteurized.

2. I would further suggest you investigate the problems of state and city legislation which would be involved in securing laws and ordinances requiring that all milk used in the manufacture of ice cream sold in the city of Tulsa be pasteurized.

MEMBERSHIP WELFARE — 1. This committee should keep in touch with the members of the Medical Society who are ill or in whose families illness or death might come and to see that suitable flowers or other remembrances be sent.

2. Further it is the duty of this committee to investigate any doctors who might find themselves in straightened circumstances and to see what aid might be offered them or their families.

PHARMACEUTICAL — 1. I believe it might be worthwhile to hold a meeting with the officers of the Druggists Association or representative group to discuss problems of mutual interest.

2. I might recommend that a program of the County Medical Society be devoted to the relationship between the doctor and the prescription druggist and possibly have a speaker from their ranks present some paper and possibly invite their organization to attend this meeting.

MEMBERSHIP — 1. I would recommend that your group compile a complete list of all medical men in the

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county of Tulsa, regardless of whether they are now in practice, retired, members of this organization or not. This should be a permanent record and should be kept up to date. The difficulty we had recently in getting the questionnaires of the A.M.A. answered proves the importance of such a record.

2. This record should then be canvassed to determine whether there were physicians outside the Society who should be invited to affiliate with this organization.

3. I believe this committee should work with the Secretary-Treasurer to assist in the collection of dues and in other ways which might suggest themselves.

**FRAUDULENT PRACTICES**—1. To the best of my information there are a number of cases of fraudulent practice of medicine which should be investigated by this committee and definite recommendations be made to the Society.

**PREVENTIVE MEDICINE** — 1. There are a number of problems which are peculiar to your committee. It might be possible that your committee could cooperate with the Program Committee for the presentation of a program before the Medical Society of especial interest.

2. We would request you to prepare a report on the scope of the various health departments relative to what is being done in Tulsa County along the lines of preventive medicine.

**HOSPITALS** — 1. It will be the duty of this committee to act as a liason group between the various hospitals and the Tulsa County Medical Society. There is no pending matters to bring to your attention at this time but there are occasions from time to time for your group to be prepared to handle for the Medical Society.

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# Of Special Interest!

## MEMORIAL LECTURE FOR DR. LONG

Dr. James C. Brogden, Pres.  
Tulsa County Medical Society  
108 West 6th St.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Doctor:

You and the members of your County Medical Society are cordially invited to be present at the LeRoy Long Memorial Lecture, to be held at 8:00 P.M., Friday, February 7, 1941, in the Auditorium of the Medical School Building, 801 Northeast 13th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The lecturer on this occasion will be Dr. Ernest Sachs, Professor of Clinical Neuro-Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo.

Fraternally yours,  
Rob't U. Patterson, Dean.



RADIO SPEAKERS FOR JANUARY WERE Doctors H. Lee Farris, James L. Miner, A. L. Walters and Marvin D. Henley.

RADIO SPEAKERS FOR FEBRUARY ARE Doctors H. Lee Farris, R. M. Shepard, W. H. Wilson and Marvin D. Henley.

## DENVER CHEMICAL MAGAZINE OFF PRESS

We have just received an advance copy of "The Bloodless Phlebotomist" Vol. VIII No. 6, which is usually issued in 15 languages with a total circulation among members of the medical and allied professions throughout the world of 1,500,000 copies. This year, however, due to the war, it will be sent to members of the professions only in English, Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries outside of the war zone.

This little journal published by the Denver Chemical Manufacturing Company of New York is replete with interesting articles written by physicians who are located in different countries and while the purpose of the publication is to acquaint its medical readers with Antiphlogistine and Galatest, the physicians will find a number of items and illustrations which will excite their curiosity and interest.

Dear Dr. Pigford:

I sincerely appreciate the invitation to your Inauguration and Annual Party on the evening of January 11th, but I will not be able to get away that early in the Legislative Session.

With personal regards and kindest wishes, I am

Very truly yours,  
Leon C. Phillips,  
Governor of Oklahoma.

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# The Case of Private Medicine

**This Is the Much Commented upon Article which Appeared in the May, 1940, issue of Nation's Business. Because of its great Interest It Is Reprinted Through Courtesy of the Editors of Nation's Business.—(Part Four)**

While these blue prints for national health at so much a head were being drawn, other strange and related developments began to transpire in Washington. The Interdepartmental Committee was coordinating. Nearly all phases of executive department activity participated in the extraordinary drive that followed.

E. A. Filene who had promoted the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care and the Twentieth Century Fund was behind the promotion of a cooperative health plan, the Group Health Association, among employees of the Home Loan Bank Board and Home Owners Loan Corporation in Washington.

Group Health Association was organized as a corporation, presumably for the purpose of providing medical service and hospitalization for employees of the H.O.L.C. and their families, although the certificate of incorporation makes every civil employee of the Government eligible for membership. The contract between the Association and the H.O.L.C. still remains a secret. It is known that the Board contributed \$20,000 the first year and an equal sum the second year.

Congress never has appropriated any funds for this purpose. When the Comptroller General's office made an investigation at the request of a Senator it found that the \$40,000 outlay was unauthorized and irregular.

Dues in the G.H.A. were first set at \$2.20 a month for single memberships and \$3.30 for married, without regard to size of family. A general medical and hospital service was to be provided, subject to a few exceptions. Later, these rates were jacked up radically. Now a new member must pay a \$5 application fee plus \$1 for each dependent, and a \$10 membership fee covering all dependents. Dues are still \$2.20 a month for the principal member, \$1.80 for husband or wife, \$2.20 for each other dependent over 21 and \$1 for each dependent child under 21. This amounts to \$103 the first year for a married man with three children, and thereafter \$84 a year.

But this isn't all the cost. Members pay \$1 for the first house call in any illness. Subsequent calls "made at the instance of the attending physician" will not be charged for. The qualification is significant. For any chronic ills during the first three years the member must pay part of the cost. And there are other exceptions.

Group Health at first was strictly under the wing of the government agency. Supplies and equipment for the clinic were bought through the government purchasing

facilities at the usual large discounts, a privilege distinctly irregular. Telegrams, clerk hire and telephone tolls were charged to H.O.L.C., which likewise provided the first stock of printed forms and took care of electrical installation, repairs, etc. Even office equipment and supplies came from the same source, although some office furniture and typewriters later were paid for.

After the organization had been nursed along by the Government for about two years, the Filene foundation seems to have taken over the financial burden. Since then it has paid all administrative costs, estimated to be at least \$15,000 a year. That is why the director of Group Health can claim the association is out of the red. It has never actually paid expenses, according to the most reliable information available.

## Co-op Plan for Medicine

The American Medical Association and its constituent bodies have always opposed health plans of the G.H.A. type as unsound forms of "contract practice." They do not object to private health insurance that indemnifies the insured up to an agreed amount in cash, and they have cooperated with, even organized, many local "prepayment" plans with cash indemnity to spread the cost of emergency illness. But here was a purely cooperative scheme fostered by and subject to the control of the Government itself.

It has been pointed out that the standard Rochdale cooperative principle cannot be made to apply to the distribution of medical service. In a regular co-op for the distribution of goods the advantage held out to members is "patronage dividends." Established prices are paid for goods and the profits divided later in proportion to the amounts that members have bought. It is to the interest of both individual and group to buy as much as possible through the co-op. But in a medical cooperative the group interest is best served by members making as little use of the service as possible and thereby keeping down costs so that the full service may at all times be available. This conflicts with the individual interest, because the individual member pays his dues and uses every occasion to get his money's worth out of the membership.

One of the doctors who resigned from the Group Health panel said that patients were so numerous they had to be driven through the clinic "like a herd of sheep." There were so many calls for service, many of them of a trivial nature, that members who really needed attention sometimes had



to wait for six or seven days, he declared. Doctors saw from 40 to 60 patients a day. Clients had physicians and specialists assigned to them arbitrarily. Another observer found that some members called in their old family doctors when they had any serious illness, but retained their memberships in the Association for fear of encountering official disapproval from superiors in their office. Publicly there was to be no coercion in obtaining members. Actually the employees were told it was important that they join. Of course, Christian Scientists and those who had relatives who were doctors would not be expected to sign up.

#### Medical Society Acts

So strongly did the District of Columbia Medical Society feel that the Group Health idea tended toward a breakdown of the quality standards of medical service to which it as an organization was dedicated, that the Society expelled one of its members on the G.H.A. panel. Several others resigned from the panel.

There was talk of prosecuting the association on the ground that it was unlawfully engaged in the practice of medicine and the business of insurance. Without waiting for prosecution to be instituted, the association petitioned the District Court for a declaratory judgment that would determine these facts. After the petition had been filed and prosecution was actually in process the association, by amendment to its constitution and by-laws, substantially altered its methods of operation.

By implication, this action admitted that, before the changes were made, the association was open to the charges made against it. In any event, the judgment of the court holding the association innocent of both charges was based on its organization and operation after these amendments had been made. In other words it was not cleared of the original charge that it had unlawfully engaged in the practice of medicine and the business of insurance.

When the Superintendent of Insurance in the District of Columbia appealed the case to the United States Court of Appeals, the decision was significant. The higher court ruled that G.H.A. was not in the insurance business since it actually assumed no legally enforceable obligation to its members. This was definite confirmation of the Medical Society's contention that the association was promising something which all experience indicated it could not possibly fulfill.

This resistance of doctors to the longest step taken up to that time to introduce State medicine into this country put them on the spot. At once the full force of the reform phalanx calumny that previously had been enough to realize that the full program of never be acceptable. So they dropped the compulsory health insurance feature and fell directed at industry was loosed upon the organized medical profession. Every agency

of publicity was employed in an effort apparently aimed at nothing less than smearing the profession and inciting public hatred of it.

#### Now Doctors Are a "Trust"

Then came the final play, the trump card of those behind the National Health Program. It was expected to silence completely all opposition by doctors averse to regimentation.

Somebody had coined the term "medical trust." It seemed to be a winner, as "power trust" and "economic royalist" had been in indicting business. In these circumstances, Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold came to the fore. It was a brilliant inspiration that passed the ball from Parran to Roche to Arnold, who had come East to Yale, and thence on to Washington as a trust buster extraordinary.

The American Medical Association was threatened with prosecution as a trust because it adhered to its long-established code of ethics. Every lawyer knew that the real issue was the Association's temerity in daring to oppose a scheme dear to the hearts of the Planners.

Taking a cue from the sensational successes achieved by the Black and LaFollette Committees' senatorial investigations, the Justice Department began trying this case in the press in advance of an indictment. Lecturers were sent from the Department to harangue public audiences before the indictment had been voted or drawn. Afterward its representatives began to bust the "medical trust" by radio, in newspaper interviews and in articles attacking the organized medical profession.

The Department of the Interior, the United States Public Health Service and many other federal agencies used the radio to dramatize the inefficiency of the medical profession and its alleged conspicuous failure to meet conditions of medical need. Newspapers, periodicals and other agencies for the dissemination of information were deluged with handouts and books and pamphlets handsomely illustrated and costly, urging promotion of the National Health Program and at the same time breaking down confidence in the medical profession.

The propaganda released by various federal agencies spoke recklessly of hundreds of thousands of needless deaths, as if indeed it were possible for scientific medicine to save every life. Of course, every one should know that vast numbers of people die by the very nature of their being and by the conditions of the civilization in which we live. It would be preposterous to say that every death in childbirth could be prevented; but one has yet to find a statement issued by the Children's Bureau in the Department of Labor which admits that any maternal death ever occurs that could not have been prevented by medical aid.

(Continued Next Month)



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## LETTERS FROM A DOCTOR'S SECRETARY

Dear Sue:

Assuming that Leap Year and the draft have both let you down, and that you will probably be working for a doctor at least another year, it might be well to advise you a little on the various crises which will inevitably arise in the course of office routine.

Foremost among these is the First of the Month Peeve. In case you are not yet familiar with this phase of your employer's personality, let me acquaint you with the symptoms. While you are engaged in writing checks for his wife's Christmas shopping, he will peer over your shoulder and speculate gloomily as to how far in the red he will be, come next month's bank statement. Follows then a dissertation on collections, a hasty pawing through the ledger, and instructions to sue and garnishee every third unfortunate. The final flourish is a dark hint concerning economy, and how it begins with salary cuts. Then with a magnificent disregard for the three appointments, all of which he has made without consulting you, and all of which are due simultaneously, he breezes out of the office and leaves you to be set upon by the wolves (patients to you). After you have stood them off for a couple of hours with your stock stories, ie., a man dying out on Sand Springs Road, an emergency appendectomy, a child who swallowed a lamp shade, etc., he breezes back in, this time in a tweed suit and a Chessy Cat grin. You reply with a sickly grimace, wondering idly how his neck would look in a hangman's noose, or perhaps suspended from the ceiling with a pair of forceps through his nose. These pleasant reflections are then interrupted by Dr. X \_\_\_\_\_, who is again on the point of departure, this time for the twelfth floor, where several games of bridge are in progress. From this stronghold, only fire or an act of God can remove him.

Comes four o'clock fag, and the break you've been waiting for. An O. B. is ready to deliver. Dr. X \_\_\_\_\_

departs grumbling about women who can't wait until five o'clock to have their babies. You retire to an inner room, lock yourself in and let your hair down, first tearing out a few handfuls. Then if you're smart you write a New Year's resolution which reads "Resolved, not to work for a Doctor if I can get a good job training wild animals."

Yours,  
LOU,  
(T.C.M.D.A. Reporter.)

## STATUS OF MEAD JOHNSON VITAMIN A AWARD\*

Meeting in New York June 4, 1937, the Judges stated that the presentation of the Award "at this time is not warranted since no clinical investigation on vitamin A has yet been published which completely answers any of the objectives of the original proposal. The Judges, therefore, agreed to defer further consideration of the granting of this award until December 31, 1939. This action was taken because of the existence of pronounced differences of opinion among investigators as to the reliability of any method yet proposed for determining the actual vitamin A requirements."

On November 19, 1940, the Judges met at Memphis and stated that "considerable progress in research with vitamin A has been made, principally along two main lines of endeavor. The fields showing most promise are those involving dark adaptation and blood serum studies. The Judges feel that there is still too much uncertainty about the relative merits of several investigations to warrant making the award at this time. It was, therefore, agreed that the giving of the award be postponed until clear resolution of various factors is achieved."

The sum of \$15,000, called for by the Main Award, for Clinical Investigation, remains as a cash deposit in escrow with the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago, and will be paid immediately upon official notification of the Judges' decision.

# Professional Directory

<p><b>VICTOR K. ALLEN, M. D.</b>            Proctology            1001 Medical Arts Building            Tulsa, Oklahoma</p>	<p><b>E. RANKIN DENNY, M. D.</b>            Diagnosis and Clinical Investigation            Allergy            1105 Med. Arts Bldg.      Tel. 4-4444</p>
<p><b>W. S. LARRABEE, M. D.</b>            Roentgenology            411 Med. Arts Bldg.      Tel. 4-3111</p>	<p><b>I. A. NELSON, M. D.</b>            Tissue and Clinical Pathology            1107 Med. Arts Bldg.      Tel. 4-1835</p>
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