

THE BULLETIN

OF THE

TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY



Christmas Issue

IN THIS ISSUE



Fighting Malpractice Suits



Annual Election December 13



Members In Service



A Brighter Year—An Editorial

Vol. 9 ▲ Tulsa ▲ DECEMBER ▲ Okla. ▲ No. 12

"A Poor Scholar . . . because of a Poor Breakfast"

MANY a child is scolded for dullness when he should be treated for undernourishment. In hundreds of homes a "continental" breakfast of a roll and coffee is the rule. If, day after day, a child breaks the night's fast of twelve hours on this scant fare, — or less — small wonder that he is listless, nervous, or stupid at school.

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physicians. Pablum (Mead's Cereal thoroughly cooked) is a palatable cereal enriched with vitamin- and mineral-containing foods, consisting of wheatmeal, oatmeal, wheat embryo, cornmeal, beef bone, alfalfa leaf, brewers' yeast, sodium chloride and reduced iron. (The oatmeal form of Pablum is called Pabena.) MEAD JOHNSON & COMPANY, EVANSVILLE 21, INDIANA, U.S.A.

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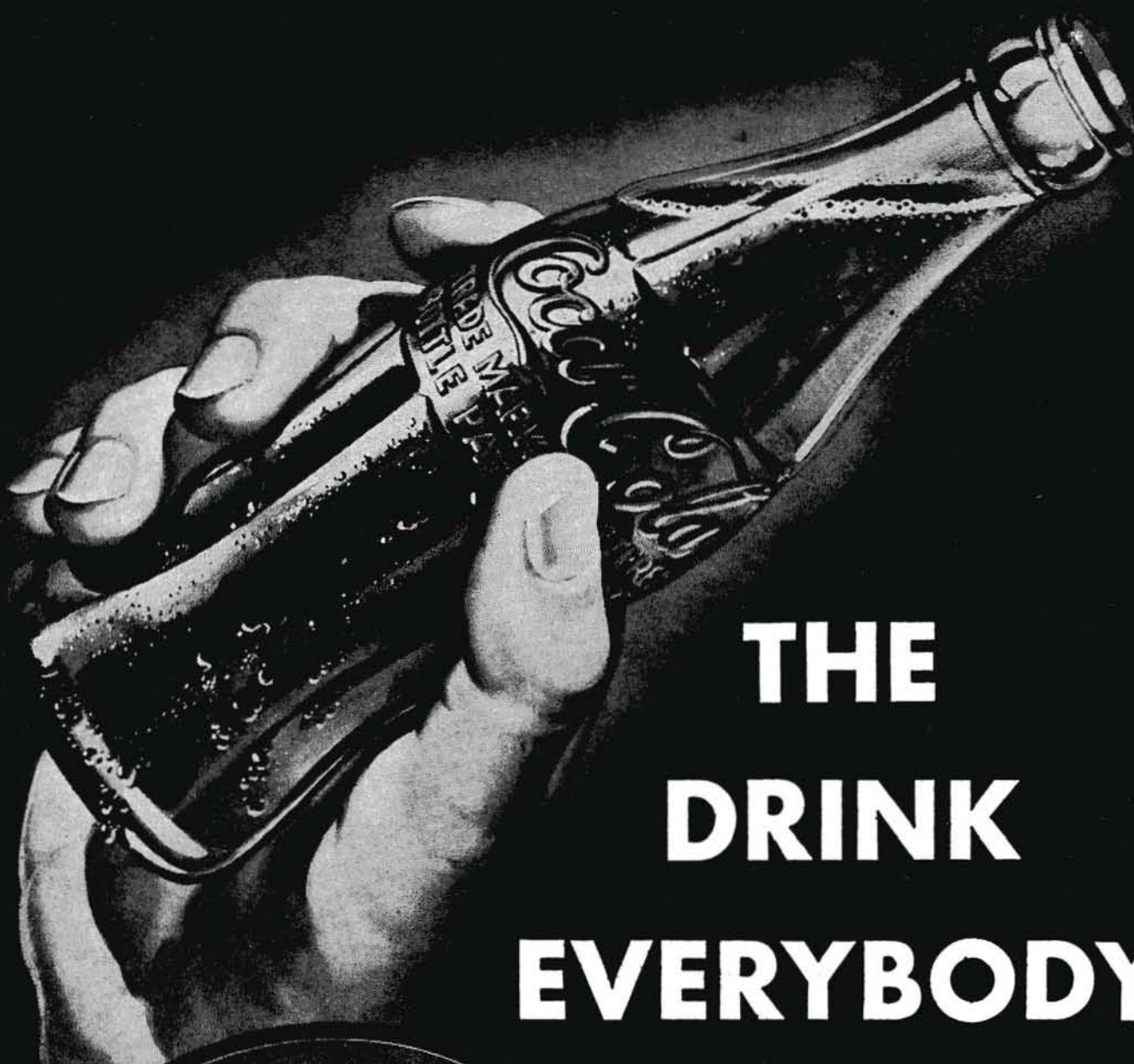
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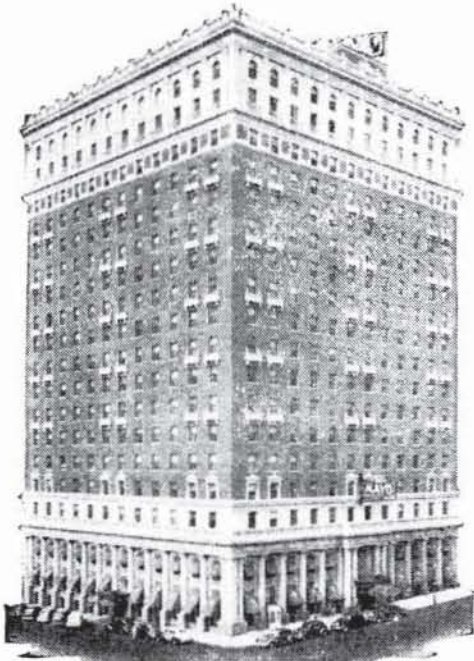
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THE BULLETIN

OF THE

TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

J. C. Peden, M.D., *President*R. A. McGill, M.D., *President-Elect*H. A. Ruprecht, M.D., *Vice-President* E. O. Johnson, M.D., *Secretary-Treasurer*Jack Spears, *Executive Secretary*

VOL. 9

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, DECEMBER, 1943

NO. 12

FIGHTING MALPRACTICE SUITS

Physicians Incur An Ethical And Moral Responsibility To Be Justified In Medical Evidence Presented In Malpractice Suits. Necessity For Testifying Should Be Legally Demonstrated Where Doctors Appear For The Plaintiff.

By V. K. ALLEN, M. D.

Chairman of the Insurance Committee

Organized medicine in America has learned through bitter experience that few suits for malpractice of medicine have a legitimate basis of fact. Consequently, such contests serve only to incur needless expense for both parties and to injure the character and professional reputation of the physician involved. Although most malpractice suits are entered for the defendant, the mere fact of such suit serves in itself to wrong the doctor by reason of the unjust publicity which it attracts.

It has long been the aim of the Tulsa County Medical Society and its component medical organizations to protect its members for the effects of malpractice suits in every way possible. Several years ago, the Society went to considerable effort and expense to secure a special malpractice insurance policy to be provided to Oklahoma physicians at a minimum cost with maximum protection. The Society has conducted a continuing educational campaign to acquaint the doctor and his assistants with the best methods of preventing malpractice suits from arising in the first place. Finally, it has endeavored to make available all the facilities of organized medicine in fighting such suits when they actually arise.

Despite such precautions to protect the

doctor, malpractice suits do arise and judgments are occasionally entered for the plaintiff. Unfortunately, some physicians have not yet learned the value of malpractice insurance. If an uninsured doctor loses a suit of this character he must not only pay the assessed damages but is usually responsible for court costs and the expenses of his own defense. The monetary losses are often slight when compared to the damage his professional reputation may have suffered. The loss of a malpractice suit tends to preclude the future issuance of malpractice insurance to that physician. This places an additional hardship on the doctor as he must bear the expense of his further suits which may arise. It has been the experience of medico-legal history that one lost malpractice suit paves the way for additional charges. Too often, these additional suits are brought by persons seeking easy money and ready to capitalize upon the stain of a previous conviction of the doctor concerned.

It is the duty of organized medicine to assist its members in fighting such suits. Perhaps more emphasis should be laid on the manner of preventing the original birth of such suits, but once they do arise an obligation is created upon the part of organized medicine and its mem-

bers. The conviction of any single doctor reflects upon the medical profession as a whole. It is further important that a physician be not falsely convicted through a lack of adequate and correct medical evidence. Once a certain point is sustained in a conviction, it serves as a precedent for any similar suits which may arise in the future.

There are two ways in which a doctor can assist in fighting a suit of malpractice

of medicine brought against a fellow practitioner—by giving proper medical evidence and character references, and by discouraging the giving of substantiating testimony for the plaintiff. These two points may be explained at further length.

In the majority of cases the best defense is adequate and reliable medical evidence to refute the charges made. The defending physician and his attorney should make certain that the medical witnesses called to the stand should be competent in their fields, that they be well versed in the literature of the subject under consideration, and that they deliver their evidence in a convincing and unhesitating manner. Their qualification is a matter of utmost importance.

Now consider the second point in defending malpractice suits. It is a recognized fact that the great majority of such cases originate with another physician. Too often, these physicians instill the germ of a malpractice suit through careless remarks about the quality of care afforded by previous doctors on the case. Similarly, malpractice suits have little chance of becoming successful unless medical evidence of sufficient reliability is presented in the courtroom. This means that one doctor must agree to testify against another, in itself a flagrant violation of professional ethics.

In cases where a doctor has been in actual contact with the patient and has examined the condition so alleged in the suit, he cannot refuse to testify except under penalty of contempt of court. He is likewise bound to give an honest opinion of his findings or subject himself to perjury. Doctors who find themselves in this situation have no alternative but to testify. It becomes their responsibility to qualify themselves absolutely. They must not testify unless they are absolutely qualified, otherwise they encourage a miscarriage of justice, irreparable damage to the defendant, and a general smirch of medicine as a whole.

The opinions of the examining doctors are normally qualified by other doctors

CONGRESSIONAL MATHEMATICS

With U. S. Senate Bill 1161 pending before the Congress, one cannot help but comment on the amazing mathematical processes by which Senator Robert F. Wagner obtains the basis for his contention that the bill has "overwhelming public approval" of the American people.

Senator Wagner cites a poll conducted by the American Institute of Public Opinion (Gallup) in which 59% of the persons interviewed expressed themselves as favoring the extension of Social Security benefits to medical and hospital services. Apparently, 41% did not approve or were non-committal.

However, when the all important question of deducting six per cent of each person's wages for that purpose was broached, the approval of the extension dropped to 44 per cent. Yet, Senator Wagner blithely asserted in Congress that the Wagner-Murray Bill had "overwhelming public approval", and went so far as to write such an opinion into the Congressional Record.

By our way of thinking, and according to our old arithmetic books, 44% does not constitute majority approval. Perhaps the Senator needs a fundamental course in mathematics at a Washington night school. Perhaps he needs more a good sound schooling in the principles of the American Constitution which he so loyally swore to uphold upon taking office.

ANNUAL ELECTION DECEMBER 13TH

Forty-Three Members Eligible As Candidates For Fourteen Vacancies In Society Offices. Committees Will Render Annual Report Of Activities. House Of Delegates Representation Cut To Seven.

Members of the Tulsa County Medical Society will name fourteen officers and state association representatives from a list of 43 eligible candidates at the annual election of officers to be held Monday, December 13, 1943, at the Mayo Hotel, Tulsa, at 8:00 p.m. Those elected will serve next year with the exception of the President-Elect, who serves ex-officio on the Board of Trustees next year and as President in 1945.

The meeting will also feature the reading of annual committee reports of the Society's standing and special committees. Chairmen of each group will receive an outline of committee activity for the year from the Executive Offices shortly after December 1. These will serve as a guide in preparation of the report. Each report is to be filed in the Executive Offices by December 14, 1943.

Vacancies to be filled are: President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, one member of the Board of Trustees, one member of the Board of Censors, and one delegate to the House of Delegates of the Oklahoma State Medical Association. In addition, eight alternate delegates will be named.

Under the Constitution and By-Laws, no member may serve as an officer unless he has attended a minimum of 50 per cent of the total number of scientific meetings during the current year. Under these provisions, the following are eligible candidates:

R. M. Adams	James L. Miner
V. K. Allen	James H. Neal
Henry S. Browne	I. H. Nelson
W. H. Calhoun	P. P. Nesbitt
J. S. Chalmers	George R. Osborn
W. Albert Cook	James C. Peden
Donald V. Crane	John C. Perry
W. A. Dean	A. W. Pigford
R. W. Dunlap	J. W. Rogers
Hugh J. Evans	H. A. Ruprecht

H. W. Ford	M. J. Searle
C. H. Haralson	W. A. Showman
M. O. Hart	Wade Sisler
F. W. Henderson	M. V. Stanley
Marvin D. Henley	James Stevenson
David V. Hudson	H. B. Stewart
E. O. Johnson	D. J. Underwood
Walter S. Larrabee	W. A. Walker
Ralph A. McGill	J. E. Wallace
Ian MacKenzie	A. Ray Wiley
P. H. Mayginnes	Theo. S. Williams

A total of nine meetings was held in 1943. To qualify, members must have attended at least five.

Dr. Walter S. Larrabee is the retiring member of the Board of Trustees. Other members are Dr. P. P. Nesbitt (1944), Dr. Ned R. Smith (1945), Dr. John C. Perry (1946), and Dr. H. B. Stewart (1947).

Dr. V. K. Allen is the retiring member of the Board of Censors. Hold-overs are Dr. Marvin D. Henley (1944), and Dr. J. S. Chalmers (1945). Unlike the Board of Trustees, which carries a five-year term, the Board of Censors has a three-year service for each member.

There are two retiring members from the House of Delegates, Dr. Walter S. Larrabee and Dr. Maurice J. Searle. However, only one delegate will be elected inasmuch as Tulsa County representation has been cut from eight to seven members. Dr. L. C. Northrup, elected last year but unseated because of the reduction, will retain his post as a delegate for such years as a vacancy exists. Hold-overs in the House of Delegates are: Dr. W. Albert Cook (1944), Dr. W. A. Showman (1945), Dr. Marvin D. Henley (1946), Dr. Ralph A. McGill (1946), Dr. John C. Perry (1947), and Dr. L. C. Northrup (1947). Delegates serve five years.

Seven alternate delegates will also be

(Continued on Page 21)

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

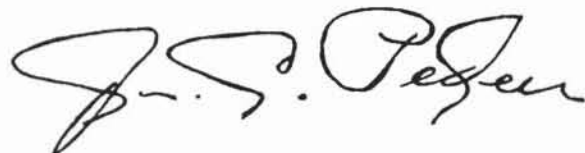
With the close of the current year the present officers of your Tulsa County Medical Society will hand the reins of administration to Dr. Ralph A. McGill and other capable associates to be named at the annual election on December 13. We step down from office in the hope that the membership has been pleased with our work, that we have accomplished our objective to maintain a progressive medical society devoted to member service and fraternity. Of our actual results, you may best judge for yourself with the publication of annual committee reports in the January issue of *The Bulletin*.

As this is the last occasion I shall have of expressing myself in these pages, may I take the opportunity to thank you for the splendid cooperation afforded the officers and trustees in the prosecution of year's program of activity. Whatever success our efforts may have had is due to the combined effort of all members of the Society and not to any one individual.

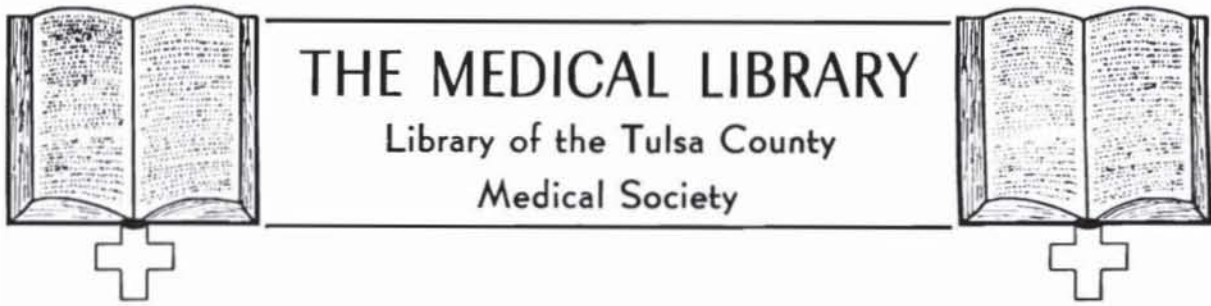
In conclusion, I should like to urge that you continue to make full use of the facilities afforded by your Tulsa County Medical Society and its component organizations. There are pitfalls ahead for organized medicine. There are likewise opportunities for wonderful progress and achievement. The former can be avoided and the latter obtained through proper organization of medicine.

Thank you for a very pleasant year.

Sincerely,



President.



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RECENT ACCESSIONS

Gifts of the Month—

- Dr. W. Albert Cook, Approximately sixty-five volumes in the fields of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.
- Dr. Hugh J. Evans, Bound volumes of the Journal of Pediatrics, 1932-1939, a total of fifteen volumes. Miscellaneous copies of the Southern Medical Journal, Journal of the American Medical Association and various reprints and abstracts.
- Dr. J. S. Hooper, Forty volumes pertaining to Dermatology and related subjects.
- Dr. H. Lee Farris, *The Care Of The Aged (Geriatrics)* by Thewlis, Malford W., M. D., 1941.
- Dr. H. D. Murdock, *Collected Papers Of The Mayo Clinic and Mayo Foundation*, volumes ten to twenty-eight.
- Dr. Fred Y. Cronk, Current issues of *Industrial Medicine*.

Reprints Received—

- Elective Painless Rapid Childbirth Anticipating Labor*, Harry Koster, M. D., F.A.C.S., and Louis Perrotta, M. D., *Experimental Medicine and Surgery*, May, 1943.
- The Intrasclear Vascular Plexus and Its Relation To The Aqueous Outflow*. Manuel Urbine Troncoso, M. D., New York. *American Journal of Ophthalmology*, 1943.
- A General Electrophoretic Pattern In Extracts Of Pollens Causing Hay Fever*. Abramson, Moore and Gettner, New York. *Journal of Physical Chemistry*, December, 1942.

OF INTEREST

A paper entitled "Experiences With Ureteral Calculi" by Dr. Henry S. Browne was published in the September issue of the *Journal of Urology*.

Papers entitled "Radium Therapy in the Treatment of Cancer of the Skin", by Dr. Louis M. Piatt, a former member of the Tulsa County Medical Society, now of Columbus, Ohio, and "Comparative Symptoms In Peptic Ulcer and Cholecystitis in 200 Cases," by Dr. Andre B. Carney, were published in the October issue of the *Oklahoma State Journal*.

USE YOUR LIBRARY



Members In Service



The first casualty among in-service members of the Tulsa County Medical Society was recorded in Sicily on September 18th when CAPTAIN J. O. AKINS stopped several 30-calibre machine-gun bullets in both legs. His right leg was later amputated in a North African field hospital, but other wounds are healing nicely. He writes that he is in good spirits, hopes to be home by Christmas.

LT. COL. THOMAS H. DAVIS received his promotion to that rank shortly before going overseas with his 44th Evacuation Hospital unit. One of the earliest Tulsa County doctors in service, Lt. Col. Davis has had various assignments, most recently at Fort Dix, N. J. Congratulations, Doctor!

As reward for his fine work as Supervisor of Hospital Services at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, LT. COL. E. RANKIN DENNY has been assigned a similar post at Gardner General Hospital, Chicago, Ill. Mrs. Denny and family remain at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, for the present.

CAPTAIN DAVID L. EDWARDS has left his post at Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma City for an Air Forces assignment at Coral Gables, Florida. He reports that he enjoys his new work, appreciates The Bulletin each month.

LT. W. D. HOOVER, now on New Georgia Island in the South Pacific, was seen on Guadalcanal Island according to reports reaching his friends in Tulsa. Lt. Hoover is doing front-line duty with Navy medical units.

LT. ROY L. SMITH, stationed at College Station, Texas, for more than a year, has a new assignment on a South Pacific island with a Navy Seabees unit. He is already at his old hobby of raising flowers—even in the South Seas.

Another Tulsa County Navy medical officer with the Seabees is LT. COM. GIFFORD H. HENRY, now training for combat duty at a West Coast port. Lt. Com. Henry recently made a flying visit to Tulsa to clear up business matters.

CAPTAIN L. A. MUNDING is attending the School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas, expects to return soon to his permanent assignment with the Army Air Forces at Cuena, Texas.

LT. ERIC M. WHITE is back at Lowery Field, Denver, Colorado, after several weeks of postgraduate study at Northwestern University.

CAPTAIN J. K. LEE, first reported to have left the Portland Sub-Port of Embarkation, has turned up at Camp Hatheway, Washington, where he appears to be enjoying his work.

It's a promotion too for MAJOR THOMAS J. HARDMAN, now at Dodge City, Kansas. The new rank came through last month. Congratulations, Major Hardman.

MAJOR JOHN E. McDONALD is now serving as Chief of the Orthopedic Section at the Army Air Forces Station Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. Until recently, Major McDonald was with the Technical Training Command at Atlantic City, N. J.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM R. TURNBOW is now with assault troops in Italy. So far he has checked in without a scratch, and here's hoping it continues that way.

CAPTAIN H. A. BROCKSMITH of Camp Crowder, Neosho, Missouri, was a recent welcome visitor to Tulsa.

CAPT. HERBERT N. SCHWARTZ, recently elevated in rank, is now stationed at Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

We're sorry, but Uncle Sam says no printing of addresses for in-service members. Any member of the Tulsa County Medical Society is welcome to call the Executive Officers for such addresses, however.

Your suggestions for scientific programs for the Tulsa County Medical Society are welcomed by the Program Committee. Hand them to the Executive Secretary.

Medical Calendar

WEDNESDAY, December 1st:

Final date to apply for renewal of Gasoline B and C rations dated to expire December 1. Applications should be filed through the Executive Offices.

Oklahoma Drivers' Licenses for 1944 will be on sale in the Executive Offices until December 22nd.

MONDAY, December 6th:

Hillcrest Hospital Staff Meeting.

All Committee Chairmen should confer with the Executive Secretary during the week of December 6-13 regarding annual committee reports to be delivered at the Annual Election and Report Meeting, December 13th.

FRIDAY, December 10th:

Board of Trustees Meeting, Tulsa County Medical Society, 1202 Medical Arts Building, Tulsa, 1:00 p. m.

MONDAY, December 13th:

Annual Election of Officers and Committee Reports, Tulsa County Medical Society, Mayo Hotel, 8:00 p. m. Members are urged to attend promptly as the program will be long. (See Page 9).

TUESDAY, December 14th:

All committee reports for 1943 must be filed in the Executive Office on this date.

MONDAY, December 20th:

St. John's Hospital Staff Meeting.

TUESDAY, December 21st:

Annual Christmas party, Medical and Dental Office Assistants, Michaelis Cafeteria, 6:00 p. m. Program to be announced later.

WEDNESDAY, December 22nd:

Final date to secure 1944 Oklahoma Drivers' Licenses. Tax Commission regulations do not permit their sale in this office after this date.

SATURDAY, December 25th:

Christmas Day. The Executive Offices will be closed from Friday, December 24th, 12:00 noon, until Monday, December 27th, 8:30 p. m.

MONDAY, December 27th:

No Tulsa County Medical Society meeting on this date.

FRIDAY, December 31st:

Annual 1944 Membership Dues becomes payable in the Executive Offices on this date.

The BULLETIN

Editorial
Committee.....

B. W. WARD, M.D.,
Chairman
PHILIP SCHRECK, M.D.
ROBERT E. FUNK, M.D.

Managing Editor.....JACK SPEARS



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. 9 DECEMBER, 1943 No. 12

A BRIGHTER YEAR

The Tulsa County Medical Society enters the third year of the war with Japan and her continental allies in the hope that it will be the last year of the current conflict. While that is unlikely, at least as far as our enemy in the Pacific is concerned, it appears probable that the struggle is accelerating towards a peace.

The position of organized medicine is definitely more stable than at the same time a year ago. The war hysteria which accompanied the first year has resolved into a saner attitude which encourages a successful prosecution of the war. True, medicine is faced with such new problems as the threat of state medicine under the Wagner-Murray Bill and the bureaucratic medicine of the Maternity Care Program. Such developments in public care as these are advanced under the guise of a war necessity, and it appears likely that similar projects may be proposed as the struggle continues. Organized medicine, having accustomed itself to the war pace, is better equipped to fight such encroachments than a year ago when its efforts would have been obscured by the newness of the war situation.

Looking ahead, the Tulsa County Medical Society does not anticipate any radical changes during the coming year. There will probably be a loss of several members

to the armed forces. However, a similar prediction made in these columns a year ago has failed to materialize. The Society hopes that the same will be true in 1944 if there is no penalizing of the medical services of the army and navy. The work of standing committees should continue on an even keel. Some committees may have to meet problems brought about by the war, but such problems are not expected to be of major proportions.

The Medical Credit Bureau, official collection agency of the Tulsa County Medical Society, promises to prosper by reason of the excessive purchasing power of patient-debtors. Old debts, as well as new ones, are more easily paid. The Bulletin, despite a general advertising decline, expects to maintain itself in good financial standing. The Executive Offices, although operating with a reduced budget, should have ample funds to carry out its normal program of work. It is expected that a greater emphasis will be laid by the Society on problems of rationing, medical economics, and public care facilities. An encouragement of scientific study to meet war requirements is in line. To the end, the Medical Library should prove of valuable assistance.

Physicians and surgeons, themselves, may reasonably expect to continue to carry heavy schedules of practice. This will be true as long as a physician shortage remains and the population of the county grows. If anything, practices will increase in size through possible entrance of members into the service.

All in all, the outlook for 1944 is on a definite optimistic side. With the early confusion of the war situation removed, the members of the Tulsa County Medical Society should enter the year with a confidence of their abilities for the work to be done, and with a sense of well-being in the knowledge that their efforts are contributing to victory.

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To The 47 Members Of

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Who Are Now Serving In
The Armed Forces

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Capt. J. O. Akins	Capt. T. H. Mitchell
Major Karl Bergener	Capt. L. A. Munding
Lt. Ralph L. Best	Capt. Fred Perry
Lt. W. B. Boone	Lt. Col. Charles A. Pigford
Lt. Com. B. L. Branley	Lt. Com. R. C. Pigford
Capt. H. A. Brocksmith	Major Cole D. Pittman
Lt. Col. T. H. Davis	Major Simon Pollock
Lt. Col. E. Rankin Denny	Com. H. H. Porter
Capt. Charles H. Eads	Lt. R. G. Ray
Capt. D. L. Edwards	Capt. H. N. Schwartz
Capt. John Edwards	Lt. Com. S. C. Shepard
Major W. C. Ewell	Capt. J. D. Shipp
Lt. Com. Richard B. Ford	Capt. F. D. Sinclair
Lt. S. E. Franklin	Lt. Roy L. Smith
Capt. Harry Green	Lt. Logan A. Spann
Lt. Col. James H. Hammond	Lt. M. D. Spottswood
Major T. J. Hardman	Capt. C. G. Stuard
Lt. Com. G. H. Henry	Major Frank Stuart
Lt. W. D. Hoover	Lt. Com. K. F. Swanson
Lt. A. T. Kornblee	Capt. W. R. Turnbow
Capt. J. K. Lee	Lt. Eric M. White
Capt. Earl M. Lusk	Capt. Eugene Wolff
Lt. John G. Matt	Lt. Hays R. Yandell
Major J. E. McDonald	

May You Be With Us Next Christmas

THE TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

THE MEDICAL CREDIT BUREAU

THE MEDICAL LIBRARY

1943

DR. EDWARD H. CARY TO FEATURE JAN. 10 PROGRAM

Dr. Edward H. Cary, prominent physician and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Physicians Committee, has accepted an invitation to appear as guest speaker before the Tulsa County Medical Society at the inaugural meeting of Monday, January 10, 1944.

If arrangements can be completed for necessary food, the meeting will be a dinner with wives of members invited to attend. Dr. Ralph A. McGill will be inaugurated as president and will deliver a few brief remarks.

Dr. Cary has appeared before many medical societies in the United States and is recognized as a champion of the cause of organized medicine. Details of his appearance will be printed in the January issue of *The Bulletin*.

SERVICES SEEKING MORE DOCTORS FROM OKLAHOMA

Indications that Tulsa County could expect to lose a number of doctors to the medical units of the armed forces were expressed last month by Dr. W. W. Rucks, Oklahoma City, state director of Procurement and Assignment Service. Pointing to the recent request of the services for 6,000 additional doctors by the end of 1943, Dr. Rucks stated that Oklahoma would be expected to contribute part of that requirement despite the fact that it has met its previous quotas by 135 per cent.

Eligible doctors under the age of 38 for married men, 45 for bachelors, will be sought first. Subsequent invitations to apply for a commission will be sent to available physicians between 38 and 45.

As yet, the enlistment of all doctors in the Army and Navy is done on a voluntary basis. However, doctors under 38 who do not accept commissions may be certified to Selective Service boards as available for military service as a private.

It was indicated by Dr. Rucks that Procurement and Assignment Service would issue invitations to apply for commissions beginning almost immediately.

Lay Medical Articles

Articles of interest to physician and patient appearing in lay publications last month included:

"Pneumonia". By Maxine Davis. *Good Housekeeping*, December, p. 26. Another in a popular series of medical articles by a reliable reporter.

"A Day With A Navy Doctor". By Albert Q. Maisel. *Cosmopolitan*, December, p. 64. Uncle Sam's sailors and seebees find quick medical attention on the front lines of battle.

"Lethal Organs". *Time*, November 15, p. 46. What actually kills a man in an airplane crash?

"Sex Education In High Schools". By Gretta Palmer. *Coronet*, November, p. 36. Modern education favors a program of sex instruction for teenage youngsters.

"Ivan Ivanovich's Doctor." *Time*, November 8, p. 79. An explanation of the magic of the surgery and medicine practiced in the Russian army.

"Your Tonsils". By J. D. Ratcliff. *Colliers*, November 13, p. 20. The health of the average individual as affected by tonsils.

"Mars, M. D.". *Time*, November 1, p. 46. A resume of the scientific papers presented at the annual convention of the Association of Military Surgeons in October.

"What's On Your Minds". By Pence James. *Saturday Evening Post*, October 30, p. 24. Hypnotism and medicine related.

"Victory Over Syphilis". By J. D. Ratcliff. *Colliers*, November 6, p. 16. The use of the new wonder-drug Penicillin in the cure of venereal diseases.

"Look Homeward Virus". *Time*, November 1, p. 46. Tulane's school of tropical medicine proves the answer to the war's greatest medical need.

"It's Only A Cold". By Elizabeth Hill. *American Home*, November, p. 66. The common-sense do's and don't's of a cold.

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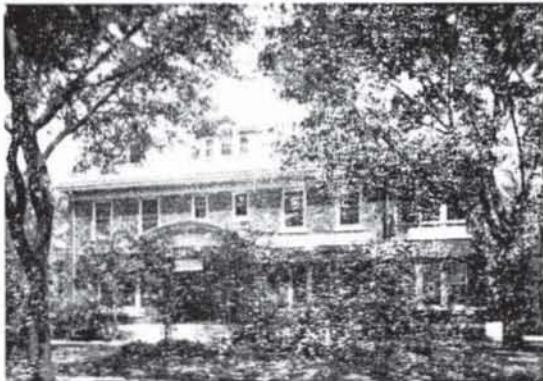
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TULSA HOSPITALS IN FOUR-WAY LOCATION SHIFT

Consolidation of the present Flower Hospital of Tulsa with the new Hillcrest Lying-In Hospital, now under construction, has been announced by Bryce Twitty, administrator of Hillcrest Memorial Hospital. The new obstetrical unit, which is being remodeled from the old Morning-side Apartments, will be ready for occupancy about February 15, 1944.

Mr. Twitty said that present Flower Hospital patients have been removed to Hillcrest Hospital where they will remain until the new lying-in hospital is completed.

The old quarters occupied by Flower Hospital at 523 N. Boulder have been taken over by the Tulsa West Side Hospital, which in turn has relinquished its space at 744 W. 9th to a group of Tulsa osteopaths.

Mr. Twitty revealed also that the new Hillcrest Lying-In Hospital would have \$100,000 in surgical equipment, all purchased new under permits from the War Production Board. The hospital will handle confinement cases under a flat hospital charge of \$40.00.

BLUE CROSS BENEFITS INCREASED DECEMBER 1

Additional benefits for policyholders of Blue Cross hospitalization insurance at no increase in premium rates were announced last month by officials of Group Hospital Service, Tulsa. Oklahoma subscribers will receive the additional services through financial surpluses accumulated by the non-profit organization.

The new benefits available December 1, 1943, are: all drugs and medicines, splints and casts, all oxygen and basal metabolism tests, all electrocardiograms, and all physiotherapy treatments. Patients who choose non-member hospitals to attend will now be allowed \$5.00 per day towards cost of room instead of the \$4.50 previously paid.

Mr. N. D. Helland, executive director, announced on November 1 that membership in the Oklahoma unit of Blue Cross numbered 43,486.

PERSONALS

DR. GEORGE R. OSBORN has returned from Cincinnati where he attended the annual convention of the Southern Medical Association, October 14-17.

DR. VINCENT MAZZARELLA, member of the medical department at Oklahoma Ordnance Works, and DR. OTTO J. HARTIG, resident surgeon at Hillcrest Hospital, have been admitted to membership in the Tulsa County Medical Society.

DR. W. A. SHOWMAN has been named general chairman of the Oklahoma State Medical Association Convention to be held in Tulsa April 24-26, 1944. DR. H. B. STEWART is serving as vice-chairman, and DR. M. J. SEARLE is a member of the Scientific Work Committee for the convention.

DR. NED R. SMITH is recuperating from an illness at his home after several weeks in St. Johns Hospital.

DR. JAMES C. BRODGEN has recovered from injuries received in an automobile accident last month.

DR. HENRY S. BROWNE has replaced DR. JAMES L. MINER, resigned, as local chairman of Procurement and Assignment Service.

DR. N. STUART WHITE has returned from a vacation trip in the Northwest.

Seen at the Convention Hall performance of "The Doughgirls" were DR. P. G. MURRAY, DR. W. J. BRYAN, DR. R. B. WITCHER, and DR. M. C. ETHERTON.

DR. I. J. COOPER has become associated with DR. W. A. HUBER at 205 Medical Arts Building, Tulsa.

DR. ALBERT COOK is visiting in California.

DR. J. E. BROOKSHIRE has been visiting in Texas.

DR. JAMES STEVENSON has returned from Chicago where he attended the National Secretaries Meeting of the American Medical Association, October 18-19.

STATE CONVENTION SET FOR NEXT APRIL 24-26

The 52nd Annual Convention of the Oklahoma State Medical Association has been announced for April 24-26, 1944, at the Mayo Hotel, Tulsa. The three-day meeting will feature a minimum of five prominent guest speakers with commercial exhibits by approximately 35 concerns.

Dr. W. A. Showman, Tulsa dermatologist, has been named General Chairman of the meeting with Dr. H. B. Stewart as vice-chairman. The standing state association committees will work with local committees to be appointed by Dr. Ralph A. McGill, in-coming president of the Tulsa County Medical Society, in perfecting convention details.

Scientific exhibits are being discontinued. Under present plans, all sections will meet separately with general sessions each day. The annual dinner dance is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25. It will be preceded on April 24 by a stag dinner under the auspices of the Tulsa County Medical Society. The usual golf tournament will again feature the social events program, and the Ladies Auxiliary will hold their annual election and report meeting.

Additional details will be announced at a later date.

CLINIC REPORT	
October 20-November 18	
Medicine	510
Surgery	31
Obstetrics	1
Pediatrics	13
Urology	13
Eye	41
Dental	73
Dermatology	16
Tumor	32
Tonsils	10
Cardiac	7
Varicose	15
Rectal	4
Gynecology	7
Total	773

ARMY NEWS LETTER ISSUED TO 47 SERVICE MEMBERS

The Army News Letter, a five-page mimeographed bulletin devoted to activities of in-service members of the Tulsa County Medical Society, made its first appearance last month. The Letter is to be issued about once every two or three months, depending upon sufficiency of news from and about the 47 members of the Tulsa County Medical Society now serving in Army, Navy and Marine medical units.

At present, the Army News Letter is being circulated only to in-service members. The initial issue contained two and a half pages of news of the men themselves, a page and a half of local and state medical news and personals, and a fifth page listing in-service addresses in full.

The Army News Letter is being published under the sponsorship of the Bulletin Committee.

MALPRACTICE SUITS

(Continued from Page 8)

called as substantiating witnesses for the plaintiff. In cases, where a witness is not directly connected with the case, he can refuse to testify until subpoenaed by the court. In line with professional medical ethics, he should discourage the plaintiff from calling him for medical corroboration. He should demonstrate that his testimony will not be of value. If such witnesses fail to testify, the cases are made weaker accordingly. There is no necessity for a doctor to unnecessarily inject himself into a case where he is not directly concerned.

Finally, it may be noted that the progress of any group is obtained through unity. It cannot be attained in the medical profession if its members are pitted against each other. It cannot be true if an injustice is done through the testimony in malpractice cases of unqualified medical witnesses who have no direct connection with the case concerned. Such incidents lead only to disruption of the medical profession. The failure of medical men to stick together in time of need is a blot on the profession as a whole.

One last word may be said. The medical profession through such conduct is not conspiring to thwart justice. As well, it does not protect the incompetent member who is not qualified to practice medicine. Rather, it seeks to avoid the monetary and professional damages which such suits invariably incur. When it is considered that the large majority of such cases are not justified but arise through the machinations of unscrupulous people, then the means which the profession must take to combat them is justified by the end result obtained.

ANNUAL ELECTION

(Continued from Page 9)

selected, serving during the current year as alternates were: Dr. Hugh Graham, Dr. James D. Markland, Dr. M. V. Stanley, Dr. M. O. Hart, Dr. James L. Miner, Dr. E. O. Johnson, Dr. R. W. Dunlap, and Dr. David V. Hudson.

Due to the length of the program, members are urged to attend promptly so that the meeting may get under way at 8:00 p.m. sharp. Dr. James C. Peden, president, will preside.

COOK, HOOPER DONATE LIBRARIES TO SOCIETY

Dr. W. Albert Cook, veteran Tulsa ophthalmologist, has donated his entire personal library to The Medical Library of the Tulsa County Medical Society. His collection contains not only numerous volumes on the eye, ear, nose and throat, but a large group of books on other medical subjects.

Another valuable gift to the Medical Library was made last month when Dr. Joel S. Hooper contributed a five-section mahogany bookcase and a large number of valuable books on dermatology. Dr. Hooper is an honorary member of the Society.

The Tulsa County Medical Society expresses its heartfelt thanks to these gentlemen for their kindness.

MATERNAL CARE PLAN HAS UNUSUAL FEATURE

Many patients now receiving obstetrical care under the Maternity Care Program of the Oklahoma State Health Department have indicated to their physician that they desire to pay the difference between the doctor's regular obstetrical fee and the amount paid by the Plan.

In such cases, it should be noted that the doctor is permitted to make a charge for all services rendered prior to the date of the application for state assistance by the patient. If the doctor is receiving any fee from the patient in addition to the sum allowed by the Plan, it should be understood by the patient that such monies are to be applied on a charge for services rendered prior to applying with the State Health Department. Consequently, the doctor should take care that he does not sign and date the application at the earliest date of prenatal care. Rather, the additional fee should be applied on the cost of prenatal care, and the application should provide only for a fee for delivery.

In most instances of this character, the doctor will receive only \$25.00, the sum allowed for delivery and post-partum examination only. His full fee will be made up through additional charges for prenatal care. This procedure is necessary since the physician in signing the application agrees to make no charge for services rendered after the date therein affixed.

The doctor may adopt this policy at his own discretion. He may likewise refuse to participate in the program under any circumstances. He is not legally bound to participate.

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