Axone, January 1955

Philadelphia College of Osteopathy

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Axone

SEE P.C.O. CLINICS
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EDITORIAL

Art and/or Science?

Advancements in medical science have come about so rapidly in the past fifty years that we have a tendency to take them for granted. Improved teaching methods, more accurate diagnostic procedures and new discoveries were made available by the relentless probing of a thousand curious minds seeking better ways to do things.

This surge toward research has produced the startling and almost miraculous results found in the healing profession today. Research has forged a new link between art and science making them more interdependent than ever before. It has opened new horizons in medicine and has made room for more pioneers. Only fifteen years ago pneumonia was one of the major causes of death. Now a patient rarely dies of pneumonia. Other diseases of mankind are more controlled and less in prominence than ever before. Life expectancy figures have risen from 35.5 yrs in 1800 to 69.0 yrs. in 1950. Schools, libraries and literature have increased in volume and better methods so that more men may equip themselves properly for scientific investigations.

Everything is in readiness to improve the conditions of mankind and for the advancement of our profession. Still, only a few turn their thoughts toward research upon the completion of their academic years. The need for research does not lie only in the spectacular. It includes the verification of all basic principles which have created doubt in a man's mind. Verification may include searching the literature, or carrying out actual experiments. Nearly every medical advance begins in the laboratory and proceeds to painstaking experimentation until completed.

The realization that medicine is composed of infinite knowledge, only a small portion of which is based on actual experimental fact, should inspire every physician to devote some part of his life to the advancement of the profession through research.
STUDENT COUNCIL REVISING
CONSTITUTION

Plans for a new and more appropriate organizational constitution are
in the hands of the S.C.'s Constitutional Committee. The Committee
led by Paul H. Thomas "55" is in the process of deletion of the old,
inadequate articles and by-laws and preparation of a new constitution
to suit the proposed and already activated new curriculum here at
P.C.O. Backing Thomas in this enterprise are S.C.'s President Albert
Grayce "55," Carl Kodroff "46" and Joseph H. Ridgik "58."

Further innovations of the Student Council include: a Dean's
Committee, which will act as liaison office between the students and the
faculty, when Dean Sherwood R. Mercer, S.C.'s faculty advisor, is
unable to attend the meetings due to a busy schedule; the annual spring
dance is in the process of discussion—Melrose Country Club has been
proposed as the location and the time—sometime in April. Final ar-
rangements on the spring dance and a picnic, to be held sometime in
May, will be found in the next issue of the Axone.

The
Axone

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL
OF THE PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPHTHY

VOL. 34, NO. 1 JAN., 1955

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COVER: Picture shows Dr. Lee Gordon Lurch, B.S., D.O., resident in
Pediatrics attending his young patient Dean James Chimereakis at
P.C.O.'s clinic.
The clinic is an all important segment of the institution teaching the healing arts. It is dedicated to the practical preparation of the student so that he may become an efficient physician of the future. To the American public it is a niche of learning where they may be assured of proper care and consultation services by competent and experienced men and women of the profession.

At P.C.O. clinical courses are begun in the third trimester of the sophomore year and continued throughout the junior and senior years. These include lectures, practical work both in the college clinics and in the hospital wards and laboratories. The functions of the Department of Clinics are twofold in purpose: the systematic and coordinated instruction of the student in the practical care and management of patients under conditions simulating those of general practice; to pro-
To perform this prodigious task there is required an extensive staff, both professional and clerical, and the coordination of 22 "special departments." The professional ranks are headed by Dr. Theodore W. Stiegler, clinical professor of Osteopathic medicine and director of both 48th Street and North Center Clinics; two chief supervisors, Dr. George W. Tapper and Dr. William Scott and approximately 25 physicians in the field who are supervisors on a voluntary but systematic plan. In the "special departments" are found men who are specialists in their particular fields; E.N.T., Pediatrics, Obs.-Gyn., etc. Rotation of all professional personnel takes place on a scheduled basis between the 48th Street and North Center Clinics.

Perhaps the plan of the clinic teaching program is best observed if we follow a typical case through the various stations of the clinic: The new patient, upon entering the clinic, is registered at the office and then referred to social service for evaluation and clearance; assignment is then made to one of the senior-student doctors who examines the patient osteopathically, performs a complete history, physical and laboratory workup, records his findings and arrives at a tenta-
tive diagnosis which he presents to his assigned supervisor for inspection, consultation and deliberation; the supervisor checks the patient personally and reviews the student's findings in the particular case, he then proceeds to discuss and teach upon the diagnosis and management of the patient. Roentgen study, consultation and treatment in "special departments" is only carried out if the supervisor deems this necessary for the patient's welfare. If decision is reached for referral of the patient to a special area, the student follows his case personally consulting with the various specialists. Treatment, management and follow up is carried out by the students under the guidance of the supervisors. When advisable, cases are hospitalized and every possible effort is made for the care of the patient and the complete edification of the student doctor.
SHORT NEWS

"I FEEL A DRAFT"

Following the request of the AOA that HR 6573 be amended to permit the commissioning of doctors of osteopathy in Army, Navy and Air Force Medical Corps, Senator Wayne Morse (Ind., Ore.) announced that he will work for such legislation in the future.

Due to a shortage of uniformed medical officers, the Secretary of the Navy has authorized utilization of civilian doctors. For the time being, at least, they will be used only at Naval and Marine Corps industrial activities, such as navy yards and gun factories.

STAY ALIVE IN "55"

Last year traffic accidents killed 38,000 Americans—8200 of whom were college students. YOU can help reduce this figure. SLOW DOWN, excessive speeds are the cause of most fatal accidents. Observe RIGHT OF WAY signs, keep right of center line. Do not disregard TRAFFIC SIGNALS, don’t go thru Stop, Caution, Railroad or even an unmarked intersection without looking first. DRINKING and DRIVING do not mix. The P.C.O. family has had its share of losses in the past year from accidents . . . remember, on your next trip home KEEP YOURSELF AND MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE ALIVE IN "55."

NEW STATE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Mrs. William Mahon, New Cumberland, was installed as president of the Auxiliary of The Pennsylvania Osteopathic Association at their annual luncheon. Plans to make 1955 a "banner year" were discussed at the A.P.O.A.'s first meeting following the installation of new officers. The Board decided upon the following regulations governing the state Student Loan Fund: "That all money received from the A.P.O.A. for the Student Loan Fund in Philadelphia, shall be sent to the President of P.C.O., to be loaned to a needy, worthy student residing in Pennsylvania and shall be repaid three years after graduation with two per cent interest."

"I SWEAR BY APOLLO, THE PHYSICIAN . . . AND ALL THE GODS AND GODDESSES . . ."

At a meeting of the Southern Medical Association, in St. Louis, Dr. Elmer Hess, Pres.-elect of the AMA said "any doctor who lacks faith in the Supreme Being has no right to practice medicine." The Erie, Pa., specialist criticized those practitioners who are seeking only money, saying, "a physician who walks into a sick room is not alone. He can only minister to the ailing person with the material tools of scientific medicine—his faith in a higher power does the rest."
Among the many medical "firsts" of which our city boasts was the founding in 1787 of the College of Physicians at 19 South 22nd Street. Founded by some of the most prominent physicians in Philadelphia at that time: John Redman, Benjamin Rush, John Morgan, William Shippen Jr., and others, with the purpose, "not for themselves but for all mankind." The motto indicated the intention of extending their resources to all segments of the medical community in which it exists.

Membership at the College presently includes 900 physicians and preparations are being made for a new extension of stack space and other modernizations by March of 1955.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY

The library, thanks to the generousities of the Fellows of the College, boasts the largest collection of medical literature in the Philadelphia area and is considered to rank among the first six medical libraries nationally. Service is rendered to the faculties and students of the five undergraduate medical schools, the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy, and the Graduate School of Medicine, the hospitals, and medical publishers, the pharmaceutical companies and other research agencies in Philadelphia and throughout the United States.

There are over 180,000 accessioned items and more than 1,700 journals in the medical sciences are regularly received by the library. An attempt is made to supply every informational need of the library with special stress given to research publications. Greater emphasis is placed upon the acquisition of original research monographs and reference materials than on text books, though a representative coverage of these will also be found. The library does not attempt to duplicate subject fields which are already covered by well-established collections in other Phila. area institutions such as dentistry, osteopathy, veterinary medicine, chemistry and pharmacy.
PHYSICIANS of PHILADELPHIA

The libraries medical literature service, a new addition, makes it possible for investigators to engage the services of a bibliographer who will conduct literature searches, record references and provide translations, photostats and other bibliographic services.

MUTTER MUSEUM OF THE COLLEGE:

In 1863 Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter, professor of surgery at the Jefferson Medical College, bequeathed a collection of prepared specimens to the Philadelphia College of Physicians. With this nucleus the museum has grown through a period of 92 years and now possesses over 7,300 specimens. Among the inspirational museum pieces are the Hyrtl Collection of Skulls of all races as well as Hyrtl’s preparations of the labyrinths of the ear of man at different periods of life. An aggregation of some 2500 foreign bodies removed by Chevalier Jackson with clinical histories and roentgenograms are available for the study of physicians and students. Pathological specimens, surgical instruments used through the centuries and anatomical models provide material for visual instruction and historical appreciation.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST AT THE COLLEGE:

An annual series of lectures are sponsored by the Fellows of the College. These have attracted lecturers from all parts of the world. Forums of diverse medical content are provided by the various segments of the College.

In the Wharton Sinkler Memorial Medicinal Herb Garden, maintained by the Philadelphia Unit of the Herb Society of America, are found some seventy-two varieties of medicinal and culinary herbs.
In our last issue we lost the talent of an adept humor editor, Dr. Duane Tucker took leave of us here to add his mirth and medical prowess to the Northwest Hospital, Miami, Florida. Our loss is their gain and we send our best wishes for a successful internship.

Now that we are alone we must endeavor to present the humor of medicine in our own little way so... take it with a grin and let these STITCHES in...

* * * * *

A sea-captain’s daughter, Jane just loved the water
The gal was a wave-riding rover
Who thought it a bore to be staying ashore
But now all her oceaning’s over;
She wed a D.O., and so, nowdays, she
Is a housewife who toils ‘round the clock
And of course she can’t sail on a seagoing trail
Because she is tied to the Doc.

* * * * *

From the Dolores, Colo., "Star": “Following her marriage Miss Millard will continue her work in biological research.”

* * * * *

While home on her first student leave a young nursing candidate was asked her duties at the hospital. “I hold their hands and check their impulses,” she quickly replied.

* * * * *

The professor was winding up his final lecture to the seniors with a bit of advice: “You may have few calls at first, but always get there fast as you can.” One student piped up: “Is that because the patient may die before we get there sir?”

“No, Doctor,” he said with a twinkle. “He might get well before you have a chance to treat him.”
Once upon a time there was a little girl who had many boy friends. They each asked her: "Do you love me?" She answered, "Yes" to each of them. This went on for many years, but she died an old maid anyway . . . Moral: Specialize!

Why reeks the goat
On yonder hill
Who seems to dote
On chlorophyl?

Rodney had been listening for half an hour to a lecture from his father on the evils of late nights and late rising in the morning.

Father: You will never amount to anything unless you turn over a new leaf. Remember, it's the early bird who catches the worm.

Rodney: Ha Ha! How about the worm? What did he get for turning out so early?

Father: Son, that worm hadn't been to bed all night; he was on his way home.

Didja hear about the gal who couldn't understand why she was blessed with twins, since she had never been on a double date?

"My man, can you tell me whether this is a female hippopotamus or a male hippopotamus?" asked the perplexed female visitor.

The keeper eyed the lady coldly. His tone was metallic.

"Madam," he said, "I don't see how that could interest anyone but a hippopotamus."

The Kinsey Report proves just one thing: women like to talk!

The day after MacGregor's wife presented him with offspring, the proud father was seen buying a baby bottle.

"Hoot, mon, that's scandalous extravagance," said a friend.

"No," sighed MacGregor. "This time 'tis not—the woman's gone and had triplets."
PEDIATRIC SYMPOSIUM

A SYMPOSIUM covering “The Lower Respiratory Tract” was presented on December 5th, 1954 by Region No. 1 division of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians. This conference was a continuation of the May 1954 meeting of Region No. 1 held at Boston Osteopathic Hospital where “The Upper Respiratory Tract” was discussed.

The program presented in December at the Phila. College of Osteopathy was developed under the general chairmanship of Dr. Wm. S. Spaeth with Dr. Sherwood Berman as special program chairman. Various aspects of the lower respiratory tract were discussed by qualified speakers from the field: Dr. Angus Cathie opened the session with an elaboration of the anatomical factors concerning the pulmonary system of newborns, infants and children; Dr. Wm. Baldwin detailed the physiology; Dr. Arthur Dannenberg examined the pulmonary pathology of prematures and newborns; Dr. H. W. Hetherington followed with the pulmonary pathology of the adolescent; Allergic problems of the lower respiratory tract were presented by Dr. Harold Bruner.

Following the professional program, a buffet luncheon and refreshments were served which were supplied through the courtesy of the Borden Co. Osteopathic Pediatricians and general practitioners in attendance included many out-of-town members. Those present from other cities include: Dr. Nelson King, Boston, Mass.; Dr. Ruth Jones, New York. N. Y.; Dr. Irwin L. Rhine, Dumont, N. J.; Dr. Geo. Stineman, Harrisburg, Pa.; Dr. H. Frankel, Lancaster, Pa.; Dr. E. Talone, Norristown, Pa.

Continuing with the program of Pediatric Education, the next professional meeting of Region I will be held at the Hotel Statler on Sunday, Feb. 27, 1955, in New York City.
OSTEOPATHIC WORLD

The new registry of Osteopathic hospitals includes 87 hospitals approved for the training of interns, 105 registered hospitals and 44 hospitals with approved resident training programs. There are 222 residencies available throughout the country.

The following recommendation, in part, was presented by the Bureau of Professional Education and Colleges and adopted by the Board of Trustees and the House of Delegates of the AOA:

Recommendation: "The Bureau of Prof. Educ. and Colleges declares that the statements to the effect that the preparation of an osteopathic physician is 'the same as that of a doctor of medicine with certain additions' are false to fact and detrimental to the best interests of the profession." The following summary is approved:

"All osteopathic colleges give more than 5000 hours of actual instruction covering a period of four years of academic work. The curriculum for training and educating an osteopathic physician includes the same general courses found in all modern medical schools, except that the concept of osteopathy permeates each course and necessitates special courses found only in osteopathic colleges."

Enrollments in the six Osteopathic schools this year are as follows: Chicago, 223; Des Moines, 232; Kansas City, 366; Kirksville, 330; Los Angeles, 341; Philadelphia, 382. Total 1,874.

Congratulations to Los Angeles County Osteopathic group for their recent success in acquiring funds to build a sorely needed new unit to the overcrowded Los Angeles County General Hospital.

Reports of the AOA's Christmas Seal Campaign show a return of $18,512.45 so far, this is approx. $6,000 more than last year at this time.
FOUNDERS DAY 1955

Founders Day is a solid tradition in the American university world. Annually, on this campus or in that memorial chapel or some other place of special and mutual affection, people gather together to celebrate the fact that someone long ago had an idea and did something about it. We shall be doing this at P.C.O. on January 29, 1955 when students, faculty, graduates and friends will gather to celebrate OUR Founders Day.

Founders Days are excellent occasions for stocktaking, for checking to see just how close we are steering to the course of the Founder. This is a useful exercise to determine whether there has been a progressive change in the original idea as the years pass or only a superficial change called "progress." Often the original idea underlying an institution withers and dies as the institution continues its merry way adapting to the expediencies of the day. For such institutions Founders Days should be memorial services to a great but deceased idea, an idea that once lived in strength but is now overlaid with stratum above stratum of temporizing inconsequentialities.

Founders Day at P.C.O. is a celebration, a time of thanksgiving, first, that the idea of a great College of Osteopathy was brought into being and, secondly, that in spite of a myriad of trials, tribulations and disappointments, thanks to the vitality of its primary concept, P.C.O. is growing spiritually, physically, and intellectually. It is growing in a healthy way because it is adhering with all its will to the idea upon which it was founded, namely, that its first business is to train doctors in osteopathy.

It is our hope that Founders Day, 1955, will find a goodly number of graduates and friends of P.C.O. on hand to celebrate with us. The course of recent events makes this particular celebration of special significance because we shall again gather together to celebrate a fundamental idea which is vital, viable, and essential to the public well being. And we shall again be honoring our Founders as we draw strength from their idea in order that we may better work at the task of fulfilling our duty in our time to the Osteopathy of all time.

—SHERWOOD R. MERCER, Dean
REGION 1 PEDIATRICIANS ELECT NEW OFFICERS
At the December meeting of the American College of Pediatricians, Region 1, conducted under the chairmanship of Dr. Otto Kurschner, officers for the year 1954-1955 were chosen and are as follows: President, Dr. Nelson King; President-Elect, Dr. Thomas Santucci; Vice-President, Dr. Samuel L. Caruso; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Leopold Salkind. As retiring President of Region 1, Dr. Otto Kurschner delivered a farewell address on the newly revised constitution of the organization.

The installation address of the newly elected president, Dr. Nelson King of Boston, Mass., stressed the need for development of more OSTEOPATHIC pediatricians so that the organization may gain strength through the Osteopathic principle.

EARNS YOUR MERIT BADGE
Dr. Robert Kennedy, a New York surgeon states that many lives could be saved among the 95,000 who die annually as the result of accidents. The physician pointed out that the application of recently developed methods for the treatment of accidental injuries and better training of medical students in first aid would bring about this result.

"Medical schools have made little or no effort to train the profession in first aid, and the result is that the average medical student, after receiving his degree, knows less about it than a first class Boy Scout," he said.

NURSES' SCHOLARSHIPS
For the fourth consecutive year the Michigan Women's Osteopathic Auxiliary, Inc., a member of the Michigan Federation of Women's Clubs has made available nurse scholarships to the School of Nursing, Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia.
FRATERNITIES

IOTA TAU SIGMA

Iota Tau Sigma Fraternity began the fall season with an active and progressive program. The Chapter House has been redecorated both inside and out by the brothers.

The educational committee under the chairmanship of Paul Fortuna has organized a series of guest speakers for the entire school year. To date the speakers have been Dr. D. Cragg, Dr. J. Py, Dr. B. Allen and Dr. W. Evans.

The recent reorganization of the ITS Wives’ Club has added a new light to the fraternity. Through their efforts, a successful Iota Tau Sigma Open House for the Student Nurses of P.C.O. was held in November. We are looking forward to more of the same next year.

Chic Heiser, rushing chairman, reported a highly successful season for Iota Tau Sigma. The new pledge season will find 20 new faces brightening Delta House.

John Polulich, III will resume Class activities after the holiday vacation. Brother John is recuperating from a recent illness, which has kept him away since last October.

ATLAS

Under the guidance of the newly installed officers, Tom Barnett, president and Barry Walp, vice president, Atlas is well on the road to getting their new home by this June. Arrangement for the procurement of the home are now in the hands of the business committee and the announcement of the chosen site will be made in the near future.

The rushing season, 1954, was very successful with Atlas getting its share of pledges from this year’s Freshman Class. It was encouraging to see the alumni turnout at these functions.

December 18th marked the annual Christmas Party given for one hundred underprivileged children at North Center’s Clinic. The children received gifts and refreshments and had the added delight of speaking with Santa Claus seven days before the arrival of Christmas Day.

LAMBDA OMICRON

President Howard introduced a new scholastic year Sigma brothers as Professor of Dermatology College, spoke to the Rushing season Class. The results of very encouraging.

The annual alums and 313 So. Broad Street plans are set for a.

PHI SIGMA GAMMA

The graduation of DO’s to 26 Phi Sigma fraternity ranks, the rush program under culminated in the alum Class.

As usual the activity was enjoyed by all who.

In keeping with their knowledge osteopathy, the fraternity program consisting of talk ers. This program is
The fall season with an
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ers have been Dr. D.
W. Evans.
TS Wives' Club has
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ter's Freshman Class.
out at these functions.
Christmas Party given
at North Center's
refreshments and had
Claus seven days

LAMBDA OMICRON GAMMA
President Howard Lubin and other active brothers started the
new scholastic year activities by a joint meeting with Iota Tau
Sigma brothers as guests. Dr. Leslie Nicholas, Assistant Pro-
fessor of Dermatology and Syphilology at Hahne
college, spoke to the group.
Rushing season started with hopes for a successful pledge
class. The results of the three allotted social functions were
very encouraging.
The annual alumni affair will be held at Lulu Temple,
313 So. Broad Street in Philadelphia, on February 26th and
plans are set for a great evening.
PHI SIGMA GAMMA
The graduation of June, 1954, occasioned the awarding
of DO's to 26 Phi Sig's. In an effort to restore this gap in the
fraternity ranks, the Phi Sig Rush Committee conducted a
rush program under the direction of Jim Xanthopoulos which
culminated in the acceptance of 18 bids sent to the Freshman
Class.
As usual the annual Christmas Party for clinic children
was enjoyed by all who attended.
In keeping with the expressed desire of the members to
augment their knowledge and understanding of the practice of
ostopathy, the fraternity has undertaken an educational pro-
gram consisting of technique sessions, movies, and guest spe-
kers. This program is open to all students.
THE CARDIOVASCULAR TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

Following is a report by Dr. William F. Daiber, D.O., F.A.C.O.I., member of the Faculty Executive Committee, Chief Attending Physician of the Department of Osteopathic Medicine, and Director of the Cardiovascular Training Grant Program at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy.

Since April 1954 when the AXONE printed an article on this undergraduate teaching program, additional equipment has been added and the program expanded. Dr. Walter Schwartz, who completed a two-year medical residency in July, was appointed full-time Senior Teaching Fellow for the one year term 10-1-54 to 10-1-55. Also, a pediatric heart clinic was established at the North Center Hospital. Dr. Dorothy Sivitz was appointed as the attending physician at this clinic.

A library of books on cardiovascular diseases and related subjects has been started at the heart stations of both institutions. A new G.E. fluoroscope has been installed at the North Center Heart Station. Twelve plastic heart models representing the chamber alterations in various heart lesions have been purchased. These are painted with phosphorescent paint and may be illuminated by a special device known as a photo-fluorodemonstrator. With this technique, a shadow of the cardiac silhouette may be projected on a glass screen, thus simulating the silhouette of the heart at fluoroscopy in both health and disease.

Recently, the heart station at 48th Street has been renovated and newly furnished. The heart station at North Center has been moved to larger quarters in order to accommodate new equipment.

An operating room cardioscope has been received but has not as yet been installed. This instrument is a most valuable aid for the monitoring of thoracic surgery and abnormal patient risk surgery of any type. The anesthetist and internist may view the electrocardiogram at any time during surgery on an oscilloscope tube. Continuous visual recording of pulse and respiratory rates is also included in the oscilloscope tracings. With seventy student sitting.

A Call in determinator of either additional heart station medical move the acknowledgment of this program (1) They (2) This (3) They (4) The

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The administration of the opening of the new additional beds to a total of both hospitals. New copper fixtures are now in the installation and functioning of the innovation may P.C.O. internsh
ANGINING

A. Schwartz, D.O., F.A.C.O.I.,
Attending Physician
and Director of the
Philadelphia College of

An article on this
equipment has been
written by Dr. A. Schwartz, who
was appointed as
Director of the
Philadelphia College of

Additional equipment is constantly being added to both
heart stations in the form of medical books, lantern slides and
medical movie films.

SARGENT BUILDING TO ADD 70 BEDS
BY FEBRUARY

The administration has announced the completion of plans for the
opening of three floors at North Center's Sargent Building. With
the new addition the total P.C.O. bed capacity increases by seventy
beds to a total of more than 400 in

New copper plumbing and other
fixtures are now in the process of final
installation and completion with 100% functioning of the Sargent Building
will be sometime in February. The
innovation may mean an increment in
P.C.O. internships to future classes.

NORTH CENTER'S
SARGENT BUILDING

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FIRST
WAS HAD
CASE HISTORIES NEEDED FOR RESEARCH

We hear from the Arizona State Bulletin that Dr. Louisa Burns is requesting case records of all sorts be sent to her for her research. Names and identifying facts are not necessary, any case record is acceptable and it should include all pertinent information relating to the symptomatology, findings, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, outcome, etc. Please mail direct to Dr. Louisa Burns, The Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research Laboratory, 1721 Griffin Ave., Los Angeles 31, California.

RAMAR OF THE JUNGLE

A news (INS) release, carried in one of the Phila. papers on Dec. 24th, reported the illness of Hollywood’s chimpanzee star, J. Fred Muggs. “Because of his value,” continued the column, “he was not taken to a veterinarian. A regular M.D. was called in.” It seems as though T.V. medical publicity has gotten to the apes too. Perhaps a “The Veterinarian” program is now necessary to protect the wild life of America.

COLLEGE TUITION AND COFFEE PRICES

A recent survey shows, the rising cost of living is pushing the price of a College education upward.

Western Reserve University statisticians estimated that a year’s study in 1943 totaled $870 but now costs a student about $1640. Tuition jumped from $320 to $600, while room and board went from $400 to $630.

A survey of co-eds showed many are now doing more sewing and working at part-time jobs. Men have reduced dates to a stroll and sandwich schedule to meet higher costs.

BLOOD COUNT A LA TV

TV cameras are being trained into the eyepiece of a microscope to make quick and accurate blood and bacterial counts. Don’t throw your blood kits away, however, because TV cameras are still high in price.
Kenner Hospital, a 65-bed Chicago institution, announced its voluntary withdrawal from Blue Cross membership. The cancellation, effective March 1, 1955 was revealed in an exclusive, headlined story in the Chicago American. The grounds for such action, the first in the health plans history, as told by Dr. Wm. Kenner, director of the provisionally accredited hospital, were:

(1) “Blue Cross patients are financial liabilities.”
(2) “Blue Cross is being used as a ‘tool’ in the hands of specialist groups throughout the country to eliminate the family doctor from the nation’s hospitals.”
(3) “Blue Cross does not make clear to its subscribers that in many cases they can collect full benefits only by saying goodbye to their own doctors at the hospital door and thereafter paying specialist’s fees.”
(4) “Neither does it explain that the subscriber who chooses to remain with his family doctor often may have to be cared for at home and will collect nothing on his Blue Cross Plan.”
(5) “Blue Cross financial policies encourage wasteful hospital administration and boost the cost of hospital care to the general public.”
(6) “Its method of computing ceiling on its payments for patient care results in ‘kickbacks’ to Blue Cross from some hospitals.”
(7) “This draining off” of hospital revenue prevents replacement and expansion programs and makes it impossible to operate without appeals to the public for funds.”

The Chicago American, in a follow-up story, aired Blue Cross’ side of the controversy in which health plan officials defended its policy of reimbursing hospitals for patient care on a cost-plus basis. The article quoted R. T. Evans, executive director of the corporation, as saying that refunds by member hospitals are “not a means of raising revenue for Blue Cross.” He added:

“Blue Cross cost formula has been developed by hospital representatives appointed by the Illinois Hospital Association and the Chicago Hospital Council in conference with Blue Cross representatives.

“This return of excess charges over the 5 per cent is not a means of raising revenues to Blue Cross, but is only a control measure designed to protect the interest of Blue Cross members with regard to what might be excessive charges.”

Also included in Evans’ official statement in the American was his answer to charges that Blue Cross was forcing the family doctor out of hospitals. He said:

“Blue Cross does not accredit or judge hospitals in any way. It is simply concerned with helping members pay their hospital bills.”

It should be understood that the AXONE is not taking sides nor presenting this matter in any other light but as news which may concern our readers.
The Operation was successful and the patient is resting comfortably.

B. E. T. H.  B. Aspirin  B. obviously OMT

The Axotile