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THE MED NEWS

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Boston University School of Medicine

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Editorial Board: Bill Billings, George E. Ghareeb, Henry T. Lew
Sophomore Board: Joseph Civetta, Richard Ham

THE STUDENT-FACULTY - SOFTBALL GAME

The freshmen won 6-5 behind Tom Martone's pitching, and outstanding playing by Tom Bagnoli, John Roberts, and Tom MacLean, the new class president. Dr. Hazelwood pitched for the faculty; Dr. Lionetti played first base; Dr. Dahlen played short field; and students rounded out the faculty team.

Highlights of the STUDENT-FACULTY SHOW-1961

Everyone knows that the fictional, fantastic and funny characters portrayed during the annual medical school shows bear no resemblance to any person, beast or fowl, living, dead or hospitalized. Any resemblance to faculty personnel is statistically insulting. With this in mind we can report that the first year show involved a Dr. Lasso (Tom MacLean), a Mama Kitty (Ruth Lawrence), a Wild Bill (Jack Kline), and a Doc'r Sutter (Don Pettit). There was a fabulous performance by George Litman who spoke with a greecey English heaviness that would have put Demosthenes to shame even with calculi in his mouth. Gil Marcotte was the author, Ray Pong, the narrator, and Joe Moylan, the director.

Jerry Lewis couldn't have been funnier than Jim Hull who superbly played the bumbling second year student, short of frenulum, small of heart, and wet of pants, who is magnanimously unleashed by the faculty after two years of ivory-tower existence in the capacious spaces of THE LABS, to be set free on hospital patients, otherwise known as CLINICAL MATERIAL. Who is Jim Hull's first physical diagnosis patient but one injured by the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, one Joe Civetta, shot through the cranial emptiness by an arrow. In quick succession, Dr. Derow (Curt Barry) appeared; Dr. Marston (Gerry La Pierre) talked on you-know-what. Dr. Robbins came off Mt. Olympus (Saul Rosenstock) and read from his green-covered Bible; Dr. Pelikan (Ed Callahan, also show director) received homage befitting a Pope from Ruth (Joan Stephenson), Glenn (Fran Wanat), and Conan (Bill Wieting, the great white kidney, Dr. Relman (Bill Gentry) appeared with a bevy of ureters played by Bickham, Diamond, Wabrek, Richman, and Garami.

The third year skit entitled "The South End Story" featured Lennie Bernstein's music and lyrics, and orthopedic movements by Fran Boudreau. The plot consisted of a typical day in the third year. Fred Frigoletto, Carter Tallman, Tom Thomas, and George Walcott were the students. They occasionally sang and when they danced, we can only say, ecto-, endo-, and mesomorphic forms were never better set to music. John Cloherty played a certain lordly MMH elevator operator; George Ghareeb played a professor ascending a staircase. Craig Hobson was Dr. Keefer; Emily Champagne was a clinic patient and George Ghareeb was a window washer; Paul Field was Dr. En Retard, the morning visiting physician. But funniest of all was Gerry Hazard as the drink-laden, prostate-heavy, malodorous but incorrigible old, white male of the South End, the City Hospital patient incarnate and incarcerate. To Harvey Hurwitz' witty accompaniment he sang a number that stopped the show. The skit climaxed with a rectal exam done on stage as a shadow play. The finger was played by C.T. and the rectum was played by G.H. Dr. Lionetti and Dr. Kiplinger played clinical professors.

-----New officers of Phi Delta Epsilon -----

Consul: Burt M. Perlmutter. ---Vice-consul: Michael Hirsch. --Secr.:
Richard Bickham. ---Treas.: Jerry McDonald. ---Historian: George Litman.

POSITIVE NEGATIVISM

Confession, as everyone knows, has the quality of purifying the spirit. So we've decided to make a clean breast of it.

The American Medical Association has been pictured from time to time as an organization with a penchant for opposing things, an organization with a sort of built in agin-ness.

The AMA librarian, impelled we hope by nothing more serious than an over-active curiosity gland, dug into the records the other day and emerged with proof that the AMA has indeed opposed many things through the years.

The AMA, for example, by official action of the House of Delegates is opposed to accidents and fatalities resulting from Fourth of July celebrations. It is also opposed to the use of hypnosis in entertainment.

Knowing how tricky are some of the foes of the AMA, we're nervous about exposing the AMA's official position on such matters for fear we may be accused of being against the Fourth of July and opposed to people having fun. Physicians, however, are just as fun-loving as anybody and have been known to participate in Fourth of July parades and other such expressions of patriotism.

The AMA is also against inadequate hospital standards, drug addiction and illegal traffic in narcotics, public apathy toward polio shots, smallpox, suicide, yellow fever, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, children smothering in plastic bags, fatalities resulting from careless handling of poisons, use of dangerous chemicals in cosmetics, unscientific practice of medicine, low standards of medical education, shortage of doctors, incorrect labeling of foods and drugs, medical quacks, indiscriminate use of drugs, swimming too soon after meals, automobile accidents, air pollution, alcoholism, athletic injuries and use of "pep pills" by athletes, job discrimination against those over 65, and bombing of hospitals by nations at war.

It ought to be obvious that while we have stated this list negatively, the AMA position in these matters was motivated by a positive, constructive desire to safeguard and improve the nation's health.

And so it is in politics, the source of most of the abusive criticism of the AMA. The association has been labeled as an "obstructionist" organization opposed to "social progress."

Such semantic trickery is employed by AMA enemies because the AMA is opposed to playing politics with the health of the country's elderly citizens, because the AMA has helped obstruct the progress of legislation which would socialize the practice of medicine.

The AMA wants to provide medical care for all citizens the right way, not the left way. The AMA is for freedom and must, therefore, be against socialism, which is a denial of freedom.

The AMA and its physician members have compiled a long record of social progress achieved by constructive negativism, by being against anything and everything which is detrimental to the health of the American people, which would impair the quality of medical care or which would interfere with a patient's right to choose his own physician and hospital.