

'TECHS' TALK

No. 6

April, 1952

ANNUAL BANQUET MAY 8TH

REGIONAL REFRESHER COURSE

A refresher course in Medical laboratory technique is being presented at St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls, Minnesota, April 1 through May 20, 1952. This course is serving as an experiment and if successful will be carried to other areas.

The purpose of the course is the improvement of laboratory procedures now in use, not the teaching of new methods. Any technologists, aides or other laboratory workers interested may attend - it is not limited to registered techs.

The sponsors are the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Hospital Association, Minnesota Society of Medical Technologists, Minnesota Society of Clinical Pathologists, Third District Society of Medical Technologists, and the Minnesota Department of Health.

Each of the eight sessions will deal with one specific phase of laboratory work including a lecture followed by an informal question and discussion period. The phases covered are bacteriology, general hematology and morphology, blood banking, urines and gastric analysis, and chemistries. Technologists of the University Hospital Staff will instruct the first course and will be succeeded by other technologists from the Twin City area if additional courses are given.

* * * * *

Thursday evening May 8th is the date set for the annual Medical Technology Banquet sponsored by Orbs. The speaker this year will be Miss Helen Clapesattle, author of THE DOCTORS MAYO who is to talk on her experiences in writing the book.

Also on the program will be a short talent parade put on by the seniors, the announcement of the new Orbs members and the presentation of the Scholarship award.

The banquet will begin at 6:00 in the Main Ballroom of Coffman Memorial Union. There will be tours of the hospital laboratories at 4:00 in the afternoon starting out from Elliot Desk for anyone interested in seeing the laboratories. Tickets for the banquet are \$1.85 and all those coming are urged to buy their tickets ahead of time although they may be purchased at the door.

Proceeds as usual will be added to the O'Brien Scholarship Fund.

Please return the enclosed card by Monday, May 5th so a reservation can be made for you. If you do not plan to attend the banquet, please return the card anyway so that the mailing list can be checked.

* * * * *

WHERE ARE THEY?

Climb upon my knee, Amylase cherub, and I will tell you a story about the 1951 graduating class of Medical Technologists from the University of Minnesota. Perhaps even better yet, I shall take you on a short trip so that we may see where each of them is working these days. Oh come now, it'll only take a short time. You'll be back in time to awaken a night tech. Okay? fine! Let's fly; it's faster.

While we are on campus let us hover over the "U" hospital. The door marked radio-active isotopes has Carolyn Johnson lurking in the shadows. What's that hole you ask? Oh, that happened when the new instructors, Marlene Johnson and Kathy Clayson threw an experiment out of chemistry lab. They are building the Mayo Memorial building there now . . . cheaper than filling in the hole, I guess. There's the Varsity Club Heart Hospital with Julia Peterson Steinmetz working in the laboratory. That girl hurrying over to the Student Health Service laboratory is Janet Eklund. She works in BMR-EKG in the mornings and SHS in the afternoons.

Come now, don't loiter. Over there in Millard Hall are Marlys Sanford and Sue Sriver, while at Mt. Sinai is Sally Sriver. Yes, that's Joan Thorson at Physicians and Hospital Laboratory and Jean Setterberg at War Memorial Blood Bank. No, no, Amylase; don't let air into those bottles of blood. They are precious these days. We'll buzz the Veteran's Hospital and you can wave at Marion Langlie, Donna Hult, and Rose MacDonald.

Now let us head West. Down below is Rapid City, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Peterson (Ann Lowry) and Don Peterson are working there. Now see further on? That's Great Falls, Montana, and the tech busy over the scope is Margaret Angle. Yes, you are right; those are the Rocky Mountains, there's the State of Washington and that's the Pacific Ocean. No, you can't go swimming. Let's hurry out and see Phyllis Gadbois at Everett General Hospital and then we'll stop down in

Yakima and say Hi to Lois Bratschi. Amylase, behave, stop pulling on that lymph nucleus making it look like a monocyte.

Time's a wastin' youngster; let's get along. Look at the bathing beauties in the California sun. For goodness sake . . . that's Nancy Nelson, Well, San Francisco is still in one place even though she's been there two whole months. Let's go east again. Bonnie Warner Abbott is working in Tooele, Utah. See that little gal with the ten gallon hat? That's Edith Russell. She must be headin' down Texas way. Oh, Amylase, no, no! Shame on you for pushing little ammonia in the urea. Okay, leave her there; she'll recover but the BUN's might not. Keep on the look out for Florence Miller as we pass over Children's Memorial Hospital in Omaha. Say, if you look real hard you can see a maroon and gold flag flying over Silver Springs Maryland. It marks the only "easterner", Donna Campbell.

Hey, we're back in Minnesota already! The trip didn't take long but it is getting kind of dark, isn't it? You can see the lights of Ancker Hospital where Louise Jernberg and Ada Kitano spend their days; also St. John's Hospital where Virginia Blackmore works. That just about completes the whole class. It doesn't? Honestly, Amylase, you must have been sleeping when we saw those kids. Don't you remember seeing Dorothy Miller in Duluth, Mary Hart in Monticello and Harriet Darling in Mankato? I thought so; you're trying to be difficult again.

For goodness sake, you had that 26.87% Na_2SO_4 with you all the time? Put it right back in the incubator. We'll apologise to the chemists tomorrow. Yes, you can check in now; the night techs have been in bed for an hour. Okay, Okay, quite nagging, you can be marked "emergency" bzzz . . . night tech

* * * * *

ADT's YEAR

"Step right up folks; next show starting in five minutes". "Try your luck everyone; dunk the diver." Yes, those were some of the shouts heard coming from the commuters lunchroom in January when Alpha Delta Theta held it's carnival. It was a big event, but only one of the many activities ADT had this year.

Under the able leadership of Ginny Dunn the carnival took on a big time appearance. There were several booths, a musical, and a play "Have You Had Your Operation?" complete with make-up and spotlights. Dancing, songs, and a glorified "Little Nell" production kept the folks laughing in the "Gay 90's Revue". Basketball gift shot artists kept the "Hell Diver" wet as each basket made required a complete dunking of the diver in a large cattle watering trough. The Med Tech "I can win this one" attitude kept the bingo, balloon bust, and penny pitch booths busy all evening. Even after all the guests had gone home the members still had a great time tearing down the various decorations and cleaning up.

Each month has had its special event. November saw six members tramping to Bloomington, Indiana, for the national convention. Several alums made the long trek too, Lorraine Lopic, who used to be in the "U" Chemistry Laboratory, was elected National treasurer and Ardelle Mead, recording secretary.

A few weeks at the Commodore Hotel in St. Paul the actives and alums joined together with their partners at the ADT annual winter formal. Despite the cold and snow outside the "Winter Wonderland" snowmen inside made the atmosphere warm and friendly.

The Candy sale, Christmas caroling, Founder's day Banquet, and rummage sale were a few more of the events which went on to keep the ADT calendar full throughout the year.

With spring quarter here the chapter elected new officers, and they are now keeping the activities rolling with rushing, attendance as representatives of Maine in the mock convention,

and spring party planning. Leading the group now and for the next year are the following officers:

- President Kay Hammer
- Vice President Joan Olson
- Secretary Betty Peterson
- Treasurer Greta Lilliborg
- Historian Carol Knobel
- Rushing Joan Owen
- chairmen Peggy Hirt

* * * * *

SOMETHING NEW

A freshman orientation program was put into effect Fall quarter for the first time. The idea was to give the freshmen in Medical Technology a real idea of just what the profession is like.

The plan has two main objectives, first, to increase the student's interest in the profession and, second, to help them decide whether Medical Technology was really the field for them. Judging from reports from the freshmen themselves the course was quite a success.

This program was eight weeks long and covered a variety of subjects. The freshmen were shown a film "The House of Mercy" which gave them an idea of the integration of all the hospital services. They also were told of all the organizations in Medical Technology both in and after school. Finally they were taken on different tours of the hospital laboratories over a period of six weeks. Each tour covered only one or two labs and in each they were shown what was done, why the various tests were performed, and given an idea of how the results of the tests might be interpreted in the care and treatment of the patient.

The program was enjoyed very much by the freshmen and since it is important we hope it will become an annual affair.