

# THE SOUTHWESTERN ALUMNI NEWS

UNIVERSITY  
OF TEXAS



SOUTHWESTERN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

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## STATE OF THE SCHOOL SPEECH

Southwestern opened this fall with its usual quota of 100 Freshmen. The selection of these students was accomplished with perhaps less difficulty than in previous years, since the level of their performances had been high enough that the number of questionable decisions was fewer than in sometime.

It was of interest that a number of choice candidates applied only to Southwestern, and the performance of the Freshman class so far this year is distinctly better than it has been in a number of years.

The annual operating budget for the forthcoming fiscal year is of the order of 1.8 million from legislative appropriation. Various types of grants for research, fellowships and other purposes add an additional \$700,000, approximately. The full time faculty, as of September 1, was composed of 91 individuals at or above the rank of instructor. All major departments and many of the chief divisions are now headed by full-time chairmen, and no major vacancies remain anywhere on the staff. It may be added--as we hope to show in future tours of departments--that the past six months have been noteworthy for the significant expansion of the Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry. It is only factual to add that a number of recent additions to the faculty have consisted of people much sought after by other schools. There are 23 new full-time faculty members.

The library has shown steady growth for the past several years and now contains about 40,000 volumes. This places Southwestern library, one of the youngest in the country, well up the list. Thirty-two other libraries contain more items. The remaining fifty are equal to or below Southwestern's, and some very much below. The library committee of the faculty estimates that expansion may result in as many as 100,000 volumes by 1975 and will surely call for more adequate housing than is available.

Construction is going along steadily. The exact date of occupancy of the new clinical science building is even now uncertain. It is evident, however, that its entire 120,000 square feet will be fully occupied from the moment the building is open. The out-patient addition to new Parkland is shaping up very rapidly and may well come into service in the next six months. Old Parkland, now known as Woodlawn, is undergoing extensive renovation and within the next year will offer about 250 beds for tuberculosis. While the exterior of the building will be unaltered, the interior is even now becoming attractive and pleasant. Renovation of the old hospital building at Lisbon seems to be moving along on schedule and is expected to be ready for the chest service, the research unit, and the special surgical divisions that are to be transferred from McKinney sometime



during the Spring.

In front of the present basic science building of the school a huge drainage sewer is under construction at the moment. At its completion, a large parking lot will become available in front of the present building, while with the completion of the clinical science building another large parking area will become available near it.

Discussion of research going on at the school has been intentionally avoided up to this point, because it is so nearly impossible to present information that has meaning in regard to investigation. The crudest of measurements is simply the number of papers produced by the faculty during the fiscal year. But these figures are essentially meaningless. Much more important is the quality of the papers produced, an evaluation that may not even be possible in less than ten years, for the consequences of discovery or of thought are not always immediately apparent--to under-state the problem to a near absurdity. What is much more important, so far as its effects are concerned, is that there is hardly a person among the faculty who is not at some kind of basic investigation.

And the fact that the faculty is asking basic questions, even though answers may not develop, is a sign of health and vitality. But still more, the faculty attitude is resulting in a kind of teaching that no other method can equal. There is hardly a student above the first year who does not have an opportunity to work with some member of the faculty on some kind of a problem. The result is very close professional and personal association with students and an intensive form of learning and studying --a mode of instruction that, we hope, will come to be recognized as specifically characteristic of our school.

And if it should be argued by the "practical" physician that such a method results in the production of researchers and specialists, the answer is that so far this statement has not been true, that at least half, if not more, of graduates

since Southwestern became a part of the University of Texas have gone into general practice. The result of intensive person-to-person teaching, therefore, is not to influence the choice of activity, but rather, we hope, to increase the quality of the physician. Above all it provides him with an attitude and a method of practice, a mental discipline fully as useful to the general practitioner as to the researcher.

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#### TOUR OF THE DEPARTMENTS

Microbiology receives our gentle visitation this quarter. Like other departments among the basic sciences this department has achieved a considerable degree of stability and has comparatively fewer new names than one finds among the clinical departments.

Chairman, as he has been during the training of nearly all our graduates, is Dr. Sulkin, who continues his studies in virology. It takes little imagination to guess that at the moment he is spending a considerable amount of time answering the phone to deal with questions about Asian influenza. The number of cases unmistakably identified as such in Dallas is at the present time very few indeed; so far there is nothing to threaten this area with a rapid increase in the number of cases.

Next in the department and as well-known to the exes is Dr. Pike, who continues his studies of fungi and of leptospira.

Paul Donaldson, Assistant Professor (Ph. D. Wisconsin), has been in the department several years. His particular interest has been in immunology.

Another of the newer members of the department is Eugene D. Rosenblum, Assistant Professor (Ph. D. Wisconsin), whose work has been chiefly in studies of viruses.

The most recent addition to the staff



is Donald Moore, (Ph. D. Rice), who is Assistant Professor and who is in charge of instruction in parasitology.

Although she is a member of the department with the title of Clinical Assistant Professor, Ruth Guy (Ph. D. Stanford), who is also Assistant Director of the Parkland Blood Bank, works so closely with the department and the school that she deserves notice. Her field of investigation is primarily among acid-fast organisms.

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#### NEW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN TEXAS?

San Antonio, as many of you may know, has never been entirely happy that the University took over Southwestern and from time to time has raised the question of another medical school for the state. The pressure is gradually increasing. At the present time a study committee is engaged in determining the need for a third medical branch of the University with the expected location to be San Antonio. Probably no report from this committee--which has rather involved membership--will appear until shortly before the next regular session of the Legislature.

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#### A M E F

That cryptic abbreviation stands, as most of you recognize, for American Medical Education Foundation. Southwestern has been the beneficiary of quite significant sums through this Foundation. While some of the donations have been earmarked for this school, the major income has been from unspecified gifts from major industrial sources.

Gifts from the Foundation are particularly welcome since they represent almost the only unspecified income the school receives and serve as emergency funds in a way that no other appropriation or grant can function.

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#### TWENTY-ONE GUNS

That noise you hear is the editor firing twenty-one-guns in salute to the clinical faculty. The editor does it because it's time someone saluted them.

For those who don't know the entire background, it's time a few facts should be placed on such record as the Sou'Wester affords. In the many years of Baylor-in-Dallas all the teaching during the last two years of school was provided by men in practice. With the establishment of Southwestern Medical College, each clinical department acquired one full-time person, usually as head of the department. But his department, with few and junior exceptions, was composed of men in practice. These were dark days financially. The clinical faculty dug into its own pockets and provided a major part of a sustentation fund to pay salaries of the full-time faculty.

When an arrangement with the University of Texas offered the only solution to the financial difficulties of the school, members of the clinical faculty worked devotedly to secure incorporation of Southwestern in the University.

Later, when Southwestern decided to go into post-graduate teaching, the Dallas Southern Clinical Society, mostly members of the clinical faculty, graciously bowed themselves out, except for the annual spring conference, which is of a character that the school couldn't handle anyway.

As Southwestern's full-time faculty increases these doctors are still around, teaching on the wards and in the clinics. They carry the major load of post-graduate teaching and do it with a willingness that warms the heart. They continue to produce papers that carry with them the designation of the department of which the physicians are members. They scrounge additional and very vital funds for the school, they aid in selection of faculty and obtain fellowships and grants.

This is what the editor calls service above and beyond the call of duty. So--twenty-one guns!



## NEWS OF THE ALUMNI

From the amount of correspondence received in this office over the past three months, the editor is forced to conclude that either we have only about a half dozen alumni or that most of them are being held incommunicado. The editor permits himself a degree of skepticism that there is as little marrying or birthing as the dependent statistics would indicate. This is a veritable gripe, for the editor is convinced that you had rather read about each other than about what the editor happens to have on such available mind as he has. Besides the Sou'Wester is a lot easier to put together and doesn't call for as much effort when you contribute most of its bulk. It wouldn't be ill received if some of you write in to ask for information or news that isn't being covered. But please don't ask for tips on the markets or the ponies, football scores or Associated Press service. The editor hasn't even been able to get a numbers racket going.

We wish to express our thanks to Dr. Ace G. Powers (54) and Dr. Hubert J. Seale (51) for their contribution to the American Medical Education Foundation to be used by Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. Warren R. Lesch (55) has been assigned to the Clinical Investigation Branch, Medical Research Directorate, Chemical Warfare Laboratories, Army Chemical Center, Maryland. Prior to arriving at the Chemical Center, Dr. Lesch was a student at the Army Medical Service School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Dr. Lesch is married and resides with his wife, Margaret, and son, Robert, in Edgewood, Maryland.

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Swindell (54) are the proud parents of a baby boy, Samuel Gregory, born September 3. They also have an 8-year old daughter. The Swindells are enjoying an active and growing general practice in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Dr. and Mrs. Tom Harris (56) announce the arrival of a son, Gregory Warren, on August 6.

Dr. and Mrs. James M. Dabbs (54) have a new son, Bradford Raymond, born on July 30.

Donna Kay Steph arrived in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Steph (53) on June 3.

Dr. and Mrs. James W. Gilbert (52) announce the arrival of a son, Douglas James, on September 20.

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Southwestern Medical School  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard  
Dallas 19, Texas

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