

TECH'S

TALK

No. 14

Editor: Verna Rausch

April, 1960

Annual Medical Technology Dinner

Thursday, April 21, 1960

Coffman Memorial Union

To all alumni:

Once again it's time to greet the alumni and to add the bits of information about Medical Technology without which your lives would be incomplete.

Of course, we hope to see many of you at the annual banquet on Thursday, April 21, 1960 at 6:15 p.m. in the Coffman Union Ballroom. The Medical Technology Student Council has planned a program featuring Dr. Cyrus Barnum, professor of physiological chemistry speaking on "Hypotheses and Laws", a musical skit by the talented students, and awards.

The proceeds from the banquet support the William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund. Those of you who cannot be with us in person but who wish to support the scholarship fund may contribute by check payable to:

Karin Johnson, Treasurer
6205 Mayo
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

The Council and banquet committee are also planning to conduct tours through the laboratory service.

The cost of the dinner is \$2.75 per person. Please return the enclosed card to confirm your reservation and to assist us in verifying your address for our files.

RETURN THE POST CARD

SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

"A rose by any other name" department

The laboratory activities of the University of Minnesota and Hospitals have been reorganized into the Department of Laboratory Medicine with Dr. Gerald T. Evans as department head. There are three divisions within the department as follows:

Division of Medical Technology -- Ruth Hovde, Director
Division of Clinical Pathology -- Dr. Evans, Director
Division of Laboratory Service -- Dr. Ellis Benson, Director

Although we are so organized, we still nod to one another as we meet and the close cooperation between training and service still exists. The red tape is a little wider but the gain in organization and (we hope) communication is worth the temporary confusion.

"Time marches on" or "Darling, I am growing old" department

Two anniversaries will be noted at the banquet.

1960 marks the silver anniversary for the class of 1935. Thus far, we've not been able to convince any of the shy grads to represent the class in a formal way. We do, however, sincerely salute you.

1960 also marks the silver anniversary of the organization of Orbs, the honorary scholastic society, of Medical Technology at the University. We hope that some of the charter members will be present at the banquet so that we may personally greet them on this auspicious occasion. Perhaps we should ask for a volunteer from the floor to give a short dissertation on "What Orbs Has Meant to Me?"

"Recruitment the hard way" department

Two members of the freshman class of 1959-60 are second-generation medical technologists. Miss Rita Howard is the daughter of Harriet Peterson Howard ('37) and Miss Kathryn Kryewinske is the daughter of Dorothea Poppenberger Kryewinske ('36).

I do not think, however, that those of us who are not in a position to assist in recruitment in this productive way can stop our efforts of presenting the profession to high school, church, and social groups of teenagers. Again, we offer our services in providing pamphlets, films, and information.

"Can't tell the players without a program" department

The state professional organizations of medical technologists and clinical pathologists have formed the Medical Laboratory Assistants Certification Board of MSCP and MSMT, Inc. Graduates from an approved school and training program for medical laboratory assistants are eligible for certification upon presentation of proper credentials and satisfactory completion of an examination. Upon certification, the letters MLA (MSCP) may be used after the name, designating completion of an approved course, certification, and ethical performance of the duties of a medical laboratory assistant.

Thus far, 89 persons have been certified by the Board. This represents to us a big step forward in the recognition and formalization of the training of laboratory workers at a subprofessional level.

The course for Medical Laboratory Assistants continues to be successful under the guidance of Miss Margaret Ohlen, instructor and coordinator. That there is a need for such a program is testified to by the number of job opportunities and applicants for the course.

"What future is there in Mod Tech" department

Last year, we announced the new program leading to a Master's degree with a major in Medical Technology. Even though the program was not announced until spring of 1959, we received 26 applications for the program from persons representing 19 states and the Philippine Islands. With a fair amount of trepidation and concern over our mental state, we accepted 7 of the applicants. This lucky group was drawn from Minnesota (2), New Jersey (1), Pennsylvania (1), North Dakota (1), South Dakota (1) and California (1). Two of the students found it necessary to return to their home hospitals after two quarters (how long can you live on cheese and crackers) but plan to return next year to complete their studies. The remaining five are staunchly continuing to the bitter end which is in sight this summer or next fall.

We are most encouraged by the interest in the program in general and by the attitudes of the graduate students and the administrators and pathologists of the hospital schools concerned.

The advisers and instructors have been stimulated and confused; the students have been confused and stimulated; the pattern is set and we are all thoroughly enjoying the experience.

We anticipate continuing fun with the program next year.