

in the past and it is hoped that it will continue to do its excellent job to insure as much representation as possible in this field to let our views be known. As I mentioned, this is an extremely important problem that could well be the most influential point affecting the way we practice medicine for the next twenty years.

Our young doctors and doctors-to-be have given voice to their problems. They are intelligent and energetic young men who will take over the reins from us in a few short years. With all due respect to our excellent and ever-growing medical school these men are in a conditioned environment in their training and are not able to see the many problems that we in private practice are facing. Because of this many things we do seem strange to them. We need these men and need them in private practice. We will do our best to cooperate with them and share the mutual concerns and ideas. I am sure we will both benefit in the long run.

The Academy Auxiliary has always come through in the time of need. It will be called upon to do more. The ladies are always invited to our meetings. Many are too technical to be of interest but this coming year has several of mutual interest. We hope to see the hallowed halls of the Academy enriched and embellished by their presence.

In regard to meetings, there will be further study in decreasing the number of scientific meetings of the Academy. The number of meetings



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that we are asked to attend seems to increase by the year. Most of the organizations and specialty societies have their own meetings with the programs directed to their own specific interests. In addition there has been a lack of business meetings of the Academy itself. With the multiplicity of problems that face us perhaps more informal business meetings might be indicated. It is a problem of doing the most with the least time.

The Medical-Dental-Hospital Bureau is in need of further revamping. The answering service and the collection bureau and retirement program and the like makes a sufficient profit to decrease your dues to the Academy. Many members do not take full advantage of these services. With further improvement in the type of service and utilization of these services, perhaps further increases in the dues to the Academy may be at least minimized.

To keep you better informed as to the happenings in the inner workings of the Academy, I will distribute from time to time a president's newsletter. The council meets monthly. The meetings frequently extend from 6:30 to well past midnight. Most of what is done is never known to the members because of the routine nature of it. I will try to see that you are more informed in the future because it is imperative that you become involved too, as much as you are able. In this respect if you have time and interest and want to do more with this, your organization, please let me know and we will make every effort to put your talents to use.

Medicine is at a crossroads. The decisions we make now will have a considerable bearing on the future. I would like to see my son, Rob, starting into pre-med this month, able to enter a profession with as much honor and dignity as it displayed when I was a young graduate.

I would like to thank all the people that have worked so hard for the Academy in the past and hope that their enthusiasm will continue into the future years. I would also like to thank my wife, Fritz, for her help and faith and also her understanding for the long hours away at meetings in addition to the time necessary to try to practice medicine.

In the coming year, let us remember that there is a hand of destiny that guides us. Let us pray that it will be felt in our deliberations. Let us hope that in looking back upon these troubled and changing times, it may be said of us that our heads were bloodied but unbowed.