The Arena: December 1965

Student American Medical Association at Boston University School of Medicine

http://hdl.handle.net/2144/17878

Boston University
DEANS MEET WITH THIRD YEAR CLASS

Drs. Ebaugh, Bakst and Osler met with the members of BUSM III on Nov. 10 to discuss the best ways to utilize the six month elective period (including a one-month vacation) during the fourth year.

Next year will be the first time that fourth year students have had this much elective time, which amounts to one-eighth of the total time spent in medical school. All three speakers emphasized the need for careful and responsible planning on the part of each student in order to derive the most benefit from the program.

In general, each student will be able to do whatever he desires during this period. He may elect to spend the entire time on one clinical or basic science area, or he may spend each month on a different rotation. A list of the electives available at BUSM itself will be available around Jan. 1, and another list, of the names and electives of the current fourth year class, may become available during the year. These will provide a basic framework to help students decide what to do during this period. They are not meant to impose or imply limitations of any sort.

CHRISTMAS TOY DANCE

120 people and 90 gifts well wrapped attend annual BUSM Christmas Dance

The night was chill and Boston's first winter snow was falling last Saturday, Dec. 11. On the water's edge in Braintree, however, lights burned brightly and sounds from within echoed from the approximately one-hundred medical students, wives, dates, and faculty who braved the weather to attend our annual Christmas Dance. Coming from homes as far as sixty miles away (Dr. Baker and wife) the party-goers enjoyed an outstanding evening, sponsored this year by the Student American Medical Association.

Initial plans for the dance were developed early in September by Gerald Healy, SAMA president. The price of admission was one wrapped toy to be used by SAMA for a children's Christmas party at Boston City Hospital scheduled for Dec. 23. Final arrangements and management of the dance were headed by Paul Levine, Jeff Shane, and Anne Lowe.

Expenses for the event were minimal, thanks to the cooperative efforts and generosity of many people. The Metropolitan (con't p. 2)
DEAN MEETS WITH THIRD YEAR CLASS
Con't.

Several students have expressed interest either in leaving the Boston area for study in other parts of this country or overseas, or in devoting the entire period to one specialty. These students should consult with Dr. Osier (preparing a written statement of their aims beforehand) as soon as possible, so that the proper arrangements may be made. Dr. Osler emphasized that any student intending to devote the entire period to a research project must carefully weigh this against the loss of five or six months of clinical teaching which may be useful in passing Part II of the National Boards.

Other students may wish to take a variety of electives, to perhaps investigate a specialty, to meet physicians at hospitals where they may wish to pursue post-graduate training, to gain strength in "weak" areas of their knowledge, or "to see more" before specializing in one field.

The specific arrangements for an elective in BUSM will be made by the interested student and the faculty member with whom he wishes to work. Dr. Osler will assist in making arrangements for study outside of Boston.

The faculty considers the new elective program to be a part of the over-all new curriculum now in effect for the three other classes. The basic aims of student-patient contact in medical school, and to stress the application of the pure basic sciences to the actual practice of medicine.

The remainder of the fourth-year will be spent on Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, and the Home Medical Service.

CHRISTMAS TOY DANCE
Con't.

Yacht Club of Braintree allowed use of their club without charge. The BUSM Wives Club prepared and donated attractive refreshments which were spread on the "lower deck". Topside, beneath a mantel of fisherman's net, came the sound of our famed BUSM dance band featuring Elliot Willenski, Dave Gothard, Ed Glinski, Marc Colmer and Paul Allen, who all donated their talents for the occasion.

After such a successful evening, SAMA expresses its appreciation to the many people who made this event possible, and looks forward to sponsoring the children's Christmas party where some ninety gifts will be given to hospitalized youngsters.

WILLIAM JAMES: A LETTER....

Most of us, we metaphysicians who consider the nature of experience, are not born invalid, we are theoreticians with olympic minds, crippled by our paralytic sense.

I am one who can't sleep, can't plan, can't buy a horse, can't laugh, can't do anything that befits a man, and yet you say from my photograph that I must be a second General Sherman, only greater and Better! All right, I love you for the fond delusion, but I shall never wage war, nor fight, "I shall never do..." is my conclusion.

Of reality that is softly stuck in sand.

John Mamana
RIUSM
The Boston Student Neurological Society held its first dinner and scientific meeting of the year on Friday evening, Nov. 12th with Professor Walle J. H. Nauta of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Psychology as guest lecturer. Dr. Nauta discussed "Anatomic Aspects of the Corpus Striatum" in a clear, effortless manner to a near capacity audience of students and faculty in the Evans 8 Amphitheater. The fluency of the presentation reflected Dr. Nauta's international reputation as an outstanding neuroanatomist, as well as his ability to easily communicate the profound knowledge he has of the field.

Professor Nauta spent his early childhood in Indonesia as the son of a Dutch missionary, but was educated for the most part in Holland, finally matriculating at the University of Leiden. He obtained his M.D. in 1942 and his Ph.D. in 1945 from the University of Utrecht. Before coming to this country in 1951, Dr. Nauta held various positions in the Anatomy Departments of the Universities of Utrecht, Leiden and Zurich. From 1951 to 1964 Dr. Nauta held the position of Neurophysiologist at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. Concomitantly, Dr. Nauta served as Professor of Anatomy at the University of Maryland, and now he has ventured north to take the position of Professor of Psychology at MIT. Dr. Nauta is married, has three children, and is an avid sailor.

Dr. Nauta's introductory comments concerned the original input to the corpus striatum - before the Neocortex is entered. He proposed that the corpus striatum received its input from the reticular formation, analyzed it, and referred it back to the reticular formation for passage down to the lower motor neurons and terminal expression as glandular and motor behavior. Even though the Neocortex has entered as the primary source of input to the corpus striatum, this older afferent pathway still remains. Unfortunately, the exact nature of the input - what it symbolizes in terms of information for the corpus striatum to utilize - is at best, obscure. As Dr. Nauta phrased it, "We do not know what the corpus striatum is listening to."

Since we are unaware of the meaning of input to the corpus striatum, it is difficult to talk about the meaning of output, or the function of the striatum as an exchanger of information. However, much research has been done in the area of output, enough so that we have a definite idea of where whatever comes to the striatum and is analyzed by it, is sent. Dr. Nauta discussed this aspect of striatum morphology and interconnection quite extensively, and in so doing, exposed the myth of the "Pallidohypothalamic Track", clearly showing (with slides) that it does not (con't. p. 6)
As a regular monthly feature of the NEJM (New Ersatz Journal of Medicine), we present a brief biography of doctors who have distinguished themselves in some field other than medicine. We would make this a weekly feature, but we might exhaust the supply.

Perry Cardium first saw the light of day at Hackensack-on-Quagmire, Suffix, England, in 1862, an event which he never came to rue. He was not a marked example of middle class morality even as a child, and resisted his parents' ambitions for him to attend medical school, often being heard to mutter under his breath, "There's no biz like show biz." In spite of all the passive aggressions in his reportory, he attended Oxtooth College Whence he graduated in 1883. His major distinction while an undergraduate was as chief crab-catcher for the Oxtooth Crew, an art he advanced beyond any known level when he was CVA (crew jargon for "stoke") against the traditional rival Campons.

Since he did not excell in his studies, he was not accepted to medical school in Britain. In keeping with the desperate practice of his day, he entered medical college in America, the Mallard Medical School in Boston. As a student he did research in the histology of back pain. By the time he had completed his internship, his interest in the practice of medicine had waned, and he returned to Europe in search of adventure.

As a man is known by the company he keeps, so are pertinent negatives important in assaying a man's character. While a young man in Europe, he did not know such (con't. p.8)
CHRISTMAS PARTY AT BCH

At 2:00 PM on Thursday, Dec. 23rd, SAMA is holding a Christmas Party for the children in Boston City Hospital. It will start on the second floor of Pediatrics and work up to the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors. At each floor party, of approximately ½ to ¾ hours duration, the children will be given the toys which were the admission ticket to the Christmas Toy Dance, have some cake and ice cream and hopefully an accordianist to liven the party with some music and song. The success of the afternoon will depend, in large part, on the number of students who join us in acting as big brothers or sisters during the party. Everyone is invited and we hope all those who will be in Boston on the 23rd will join us at City Hospital. Please notify George Fishman, BUSM I (tel. 254-7061) if you plan to join us and if you have any questions.

-------------

ACUTE STANDARD DEVIATION

A disease presentation based on articles from "The Journal of Symptoms and History," (JOSH) The discovery of ASD is a direct result of the use of statistics in medicine. The syndrome characteristic of this functional defect can only be recognized by adequate, statistical analysis of many patients; in the usual cases the symptoms required to make the diagnosis are not found in any one patient.

Incidence: Most commonly found in men and women. The greatest frequency of onset is modal but in random sample cases occur at all ages.

Symptomology: Classically the symptoms are classified in two groups, major and minor criteria. Diagnosis requires finding either a definite majority of the major criteria or a significant minority of the minor criteria, alternately the diagnosis may be based on any pathognomnic distribution of clinical, laboratory and intertriginous findings.

For diagnostic criteria SPQR has established groupings of symptoms which may, when found in a patient, be used to determine the presence of ASD. Other groupings are of absolutely no significance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Criteria</th>
<th>Standard Difference from the mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. diabetic neuropathy</td>
<td>-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 4+ cremasteric reflex</td>
<td>-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 4+ flake index</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. exophthalmos (&gt;2 cm)</td>
<td>-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 4+ dermatophytosis</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. anal tone (C sharp)</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Shirmer test (2 cups)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Subnormal income</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Acute cholesystitis</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minor Criteria</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Acute umbilical infarct</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rupture of vas deferens</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Epistaxis</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Fovea centralis, off centre</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Increased nasal hair</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hoffman's sign (&gt;2+)</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9 Atypical lab values</td>
<td>+3 -6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hct: 95%; differential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% WBC, 45% RBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WBC: 67, 751/mm³ Poly 2,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 63, 421, Mono 1,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eos 2,000, Lym 53,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glial 74, Sperm 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pink color, semi solid,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>casts: star studied.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBC, ABC - competitive,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH 14.2, Protein 4-,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.G.: .998, Glucose:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saccharin 2+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemistry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUN 5c (with hamburger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15c), Na, K, CO₂, Cl₁-Mg, U:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150, 5, 24,75, 99.44%,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>llight, 235; fremitus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decreased. (con't. p.:7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
exist as a functional entity. Anatomically, there does exist a "waterfall" of fibers from around the Field #2 area down to the vicinity they turn around and apparently continue back up to Field #2, or therabouts. The illogic of this anatomical construction - or dipsy doodle architecture - is perhaps the result of stresses and strains imposed upon the area during the course of evolution of the CNS.

One of the main outputs of the striatum is from the (globus) pallidal part of the ventral lateral nucleus of the thalamus, and thence to areas 4 and 6 of the motor cortex. Thus there exists a definite though indirect connection to the motor cortex, whose projections include the putamen, another part of the striatum in intimate association with the globus pallidus aspect. The globus pallidus may also project to the ventral medial nucleus of the thalamus, and thence to cortex, or to the centre median and thence to putamen, thus becoming involved in three closed circles, two involving the cortex and one the subcortex. Finally, the globus pallidus projects downward, its longest projecting fibers ending in a nucleus (located in the pontine tegmentum) which then connects with the reticular formation and reticulo-spinal outflow tracts and eventually to lower motor neurons.

Dr. Nauta concluded his talk with a restatement of the frustration neuroanatomists have at not knowing the real nature of the input to the corpus striatum. He suggested that most of the efferent drainage (via the globus pallidus) is directed towards motor cortex and pyramidal system.

N.B. The next scientific meeting of the Boston Student Neurological Society will be on Friday evening, February 11th, when Dr. Jerome Lettvin, Department of Electrical Engineering, at MIT will discuss "Visual Physiology and Perception." Any students - medical or graduate, or faculty interested in joining, please contact Mike Holden BUSM II, or Jack Hiebert BUSM III. Membership entitles one to attend the dinner before the lecture, thus enabling one to meet and talk with the speaker as well as other members of the Society. (Dues for the year are $1.00)

Jeffery L. Barker
BUSM II
Vice President

Other lectures scheduled by the Boston Student Neurological Society are:

March 11, 1966, Dr. Norman Geschwind
Associate Prof. of Neurology, BUSM
Chief of Neurology Boston Veterans Administration Hospital
Subject: Aphasia

April 29, 1966 Dr. John Graham
Physician in Chief Faulkner Hospital
Subject: Diagnosis and Treatment of Migraine
A NOTE OF THANKS
con't. from p. 4.

from joining us Saturday evening.
They, never-the-less, contributed to
the Christmas Party at City Hospital,
Mr. Robert Fox, Eddie McCarthy and
many faculty members likewise
brought in gifts, but were unable to
attend. We sincerely hope many more
members of the faculty will be able
to attend future Christmas Toy
Dances and towards this end, we
plan to send invitations well in
advance so your schedules can be
arranged accordingly.

Our many, many thanks to the
members of the Metropolitan Yacht
Club who donated the Club's facili­
ties to us for the evening. Also,
our thanks to Dr. Robert Schwartz,
Dept. of Medicine - BUSM and
Commodore of the Yacht Club, through
whom all the arrangements were made.
The members of the Wives' Club
contributed their many culinary
skills in the preparation of the
succulent and mouth watering dips
which were on the tables. In the
words of one medical student
after the dance, "THEY WERE GREAT."

Definitely not to be forgotten
is the leading "Medical School
Quartet" of the U.S. (a member of
the parent organization - THE
ARRYTHNIAS) conducted by Elliot
Willensky on the piano. Maestro
Willensky's unceasing efforts really
made the dance floor swing. The
other musicians were Marc Colmer,
who performance on the drums nearly
brought the house down. The cirtuo­
osity of Dave Gothard on the trumpet,
Paul Allen on the bass-fiddle and the
flowing grace of Ed Glinski's sax
all combined to make the first
BUSM-SAMA CHRISTMAS TOY DANCE a
complete and memorable success.

On behalf of the Student
Americal Medical Association I
would like to thank all the above
and the many individuals whose
assistance behind the scenes
added so much to the evening.

Sincerely,
Paul A. Levine
Vice President, SAMA

--------------

ACUTE STANDARD DEVIATION
Con't. from p. 5.

Special Tests Ca 8.8; P 38; B 52;
U235; A/G-4+; Total
Protein Flakes 4+;
Bilirubin 3,4(direct),
2.3(sneaky); Sammyrubin-
related; Cholesterol/Es
sters: 400/142;
Cholesterol/Zeidas:
142-400; Acid Phosphatase
2+ halt acid phosphatase;
SCUT, 5 HIAA, % HOO HAA-
variable depending on
serum porcelain.

Bacteriology: Throat culture:
normal intestinal flora
Hair culture: Strep.
flakalis

X-rays and ECG: $99.50, marked
down this week only.

Significance table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Criteria</th>
<th>Minor Criteria</th>
<th>Not Tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>0-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>3-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-19</td>
<td>3-16</td>
<td>8-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#of pt's with ASD | %age of pt's with ASD
116              | 100             |
007              | 68              |
321              | 75              |

Mean 3
Standard Error 2

Etiology: Completely unknown.
Work done at MII (Multiple
Ingredients Institute) has
suggested that the disease
may result from "an autoimmune
reaction of the body's natural
(Con't. p. 9)
figures as Andre Gide, Thomas Mann, Auguste Renoir, Hugh Hefner, Pierre Curie, Isaac Asimov, Everett Dirksen, Mantovani, or Footloose-LaTreck. Once, on a train, Cardium did sit next to Sir William Otter who was touring medical centers on the Continent with a Eurailpass. However, the youth did not recognize the distinguished veterinarian.

The last decade of the nineteenth century found Cardium with his ends loose. In an effort to start afresh, he traveled to the Orient where he gained repute as an Opium smuggler of great skill, thus bringing his knowledge of pharmacology to good use. His marketing insights resulted in widespread consumption of the euphorogenic agent. He was forced to change his operative field, however, when through some oversight a liquefied fraction of the leaf was mixed with a shipment of ritual wine headed for Rome. This incident is the origin of the phrase base cynics and scoffers still use when attacking religion as the "opiate of the masses".

The onset of a new century came just in time, as the old one was running out of numbers. On the other hand, Cardium now alias "Tough Tony" Anaplasia had just discovered them and was the organizer of a profitable numbers racket in Saigon. During his residence in the Paris of the East he did not know Hochi Minh, Fu Manchu, Toko Ri, Chan En Lai, or Napoleon Solo. But it was at this time that he underwent his famous change of heart. There is some evidence that even before Interpol closed in on his business the doctor had stowed away on a tanker bound for Los Angeles, determined to shed his skin. By the start of World War I, he had established an unimpeachable prac-
defense system to breakdown products resulting from viral infection of the cough center." Antibodies have been demonstrated to DNA, RNA, Protein, Mucopolysaccharides, Lipids, and other chemical compounds which M.I.T. has shown to be present in this center. In addition 4+ Wasserman (by SYPHOTEST Tablet), 1:455 antihair antibody; 1:343 antisemitism antibody can be shown. After subjects have been inoculated with antigens, they develop antibodies and the disease has been found in near relatives of these subjects. Since no bacteria are found in the portals on entry, viral or radio transmission are postulated.

Therapy: Patients treated with lethal doses of Growth Hormone show no progression of symptoms. Side effects have been reported. In 95% of cases, Aspirin decreases fever and inflammation and relieves minor pains.

Prognosis: With reservation the physician can be fairly confident that he live out his normal life span. Many experts recommend low cholesterol diets, no smoking, and avoidance of excesses.

Steve M. Schwartz
BUSM (III)
DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
   When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
   And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit ---
   Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
   As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a fellow turns about
   When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't you give up though the pace seems slow --
   You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
   It seems to a faint and faltering man;
Often the struggler has given up
   When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down,
   How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out --
   The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
   It might be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit --
   It's when things seem worst that you must not quit!

The STUDENT AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION extends its wishes for a happy and safe holiday season to the students and faculty of the BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.