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## The Pulse, Volume 11, No. 3, 1916

University of Nebraska College of Medicine

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# *The Pulse*

THE CONNECTING LINK BETWEEN  
STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND FACULTY  
OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

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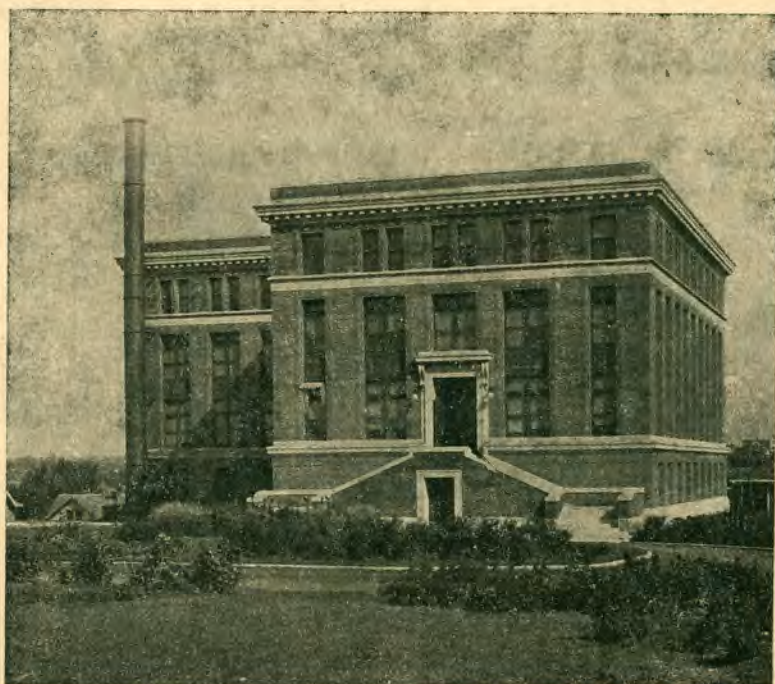
Vol. XI

NOVEMBER 20, 1916

No. 3

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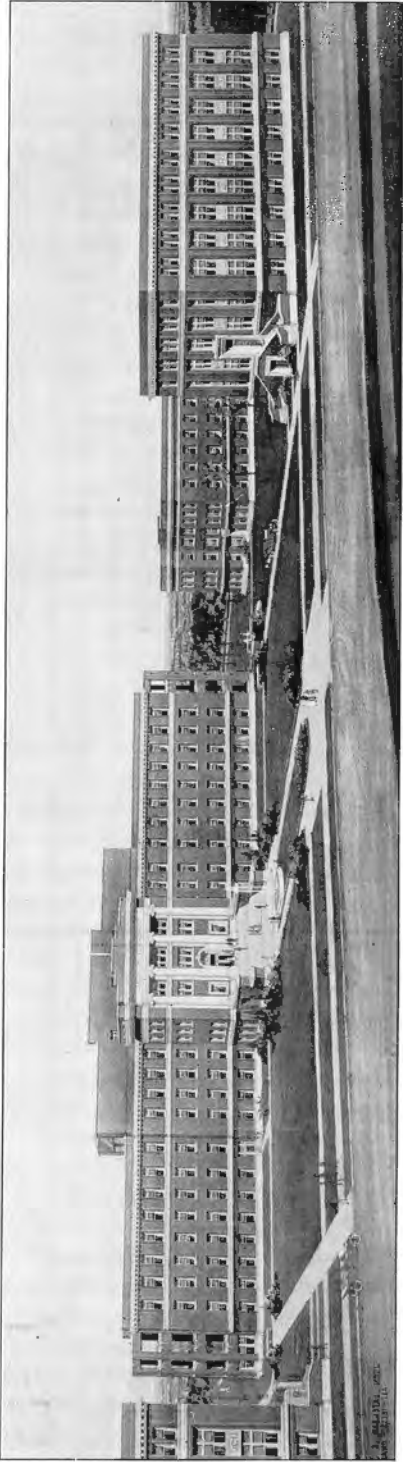
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1908

# THE PULSE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
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## EDITORIAL SCRAPS.

Alumni, now that you have come, seen and gone, we hear of you no more. Who will be the first Alumnus to send in some Alumni notes, and who will be the first to send in an original article? We are waiting. It's up to you.

All subscriptions are due Dec. 1, 1916. All ye who have signed, come back after Thanksgiving with the old wallet loaded, as the staff will be waiting for you!

Oh, where are the Senior and Sophomore notes? Remember, the forms for December issue close December 10th.

All due credit is to be given to the "peppy" class of embalming students, whose faces greet you in this issue. We hope that every medical student will thoroughly digest the articles in this issue and broaden his aqueduct of Sylvius, thereby getting a better idea of the importance of the embalming course.

## GET THIS LINE!

Progress is slow because we are compelled to wait for the fools to catch up.

The greatest bonehead I ever knew accused me of being one.

One of the tragic and amusing things of life is a love affair between a couple who go together a long time, and finally the woman becomes afraid to marry the man, and the man becomes afraid to marry the woman; so they drift apart.

Many a man who believes he is a devil among the women is really a joke among them.

"Yassah! Dat wild woman sho' ambiguous."



EMBALMING CLASS, 1916

There are two mottos that hang on the wall of our editorial sanctum. "The Pulse—connecting link between students, faculty, alumni" and "Grow with growing Omaha." The above picture in this issue of The Pulse clinches another argument in their favor. The embalming course at the College, while still in its infancy, has made rapid strides, and is growing even faster than hustling Omaha. With the new hospital, facilities will be greatly increased for the handling of this course. The advertisement which we shall get from this energetic group of students, together with the high standing of the Nebraska College of Medicine, will go a long way toward furnishing growing classes in the year to come.

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Members the 1916 class in embalming of the Medical Department, University of Nebraska: Carl J. Gifford, President, Akron, N. Y.; W. E. Martin, Secretary-Treasurer, Central City, Neb.; William J. Biglin, O'Neil, Neb.; M. A. Larkin, South Omaha, Neb.; Frank Koulouch, South Omaha, Neb.; Edward I. Orvis, Omaha, Neb.; Joseph Kovarik, Omaha, Neb.

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Dr. Eggers asserts that considering his excellent success teaching the Chinese, he is at loss to know why his first lecture in bacteriology passed clear over the heads of the embalming class.

Which member of our class considers himself responsible for the welfare of the Freshman-Girls, even to the extent that he sacrifices his only "colored 13" for their use?

Some medic wants to know whether the embalming students have clinics. Sure they do. "No classes this afternoon, fellows—clinic. Funeral at 3 o'clock. A German died!"

## TWILIGHT SLEEP UNDER SOPALAMINE AND MORPHIN ANAESTHESIA

By Dr. Olga Stasney

Discovery of anaesthesia has robbed surgery of its horrors and made newer and better methods possible; in fact, the progress made in surgery would have been utterly impossible without it.

Aseptic technic in the lying-in chamber has reduced the mortality and the morbidity of the puerperal woman very greatly, and yet, today, normal labor is as long and suffering and intense as ever in history.

Efforts directed toward securing painless child-birth have revealed several interesting as well as perplexing psychological problems. One is the right and the opinion of the twentieth century mother in regard to child bearing and another is the variance between the public and profession in their interest in the subject, as well as their opinion of the safety and value of methods used to procure painless child-birth.

Strictly medical subjects have been exploited for the benefit of the laity for years, on sex questions, venereal diseases, bacterial diseases and pediatrics. Even the daily papers have a health column. And yet two years ago last June a lay woman in lay press stirred the medical profession as it had never been stirred before.

The prejudice with which the profession received scopolamin-morphin anaesthesia in obstetrics in 1904 has not abated. A few of the profession have taken it up with enthusiasm and remained enthusiastic, but the rank and file feel that it is unreliable—unsafe and worthless.

Knowing that the medical profession is ever seeking for means to relieve pain, for the benefit of humanity and the advancement of science, it is difficult to understand its present position in the matter of painless child-birth.

In my preparatory work at college I had so deeply impressed on my mind that scopolamine-morphin were deadly dangerous drugs to use in combination, that on taking up my work as an interne at the New England Hospital and finding scopolamine-morphine anaesthesia was a routine there, I was horrified and wondered if I had not made a mistake in taking up my work at such an institution. I cite this instance to show that I had accepted most seriously all the warnings that had been given me regarding this combination of drugs.

But my ideas changed before I left my service at the hospital and I have become so impressed with its advantages that no argument can persuade me that its proper use at the proper time is but a boon to woman in labor and thus used that it is safe and reliable.

Comparing the addition of scopolamine-morphine anaesthesia to a chemical reaction, we can say that it has precipitated the reflexes; and that the sensations and fears can be thrown out so that the reflexes can be dealt with, without fear of inhibition for the higher centers, or in other words, it removes the burden which civilization has heaped upon woman.

Following are a half dozen dogmatically stated facts that are laid down by Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen of Chicago with the hope of righting some of the erroneous ideas in regard to painless labor.



Fact No. 1.—Scopolamine-morphine anaesthesia produced by one dose grn.  $\frac{1}{8}$  morphine and grn. 1-100 of scopolamine will never cause an asphyxiated baby to be born.

Fact No. 2.—Patients (mothers or infants) under the physiological action of scopolamine have an increased heart and kidney action and accelerated respiration.

Fact No. 3.—Due to action of scopolamine, the connection between brain and spinal cord is temporarily severed, hence no action from the inhibitory centers in the brain is felt in the reproductive organs. We may have analgesia without amnesia, but never amnesia without analgesia.

Fact No. 4.—Success in painless child-birth demands new rules, new methods, new apparatus and new conceptions of the obstetricians.

Fact No. 5.—Five cents will cover the expense of scopolamine-morphine anaesthesia and when physicians, nurses and laity understand its action it will be possible to give it in the private home, and will then be an easier problem to conduct labor in a private home without anaesthesia.

Fact No. 6.—Scopolamin-morphia anaesthesia restores labor to its original place among the reflex actions.

Place the civilized, highly organized woman under twilight sleep and she will pass then parturition without injury to herself except in abnormal cases. Such a labor naturally divides itself into five stages, depending on the reflexes excited. At the onset of labor the regular contractions of the uterine muscle with the patient, one may expect two to six hours of most refreshing sleep, scarcely disturbed by the contractions of the uterus which bring about effacement and dilatation of the cervix. This is the sleeping stage.

Second Stage (Disturbed Stage)—Contractions becoming more prolonged and vigorous, each stir up some protective reflex. In this stage the patient will sleep between pains, but during the pain she will turn, moan and attempt to sit up.

Third Stage (Squatting Stage)—Patient sits after tailor fashion, waves hands about, bends body forward during pains, and with severe pains may retain squatting position between pains. Time varies from one-quarter to three hours.

Fourth Stage (Expulsive Stage)—Head descends and comes into the grasp of accessory expulsive muscles. Patient now bears down. Membranes rupture shortly after or may not rupture until protruding from vulva. This stage takes from one to three hours.

Fifth Stage—Delivery of placenta usually in ten to twenty minutes. Mother lapses into sleep, waking free from fatigue and soreness.

As stated before, twilight sleep should be given only by one who understands its use and should be given properly at the proper time.

Space does not permit arguing the question of blue babies. Suffice to say, if babies are blue when delivered, it is due to method of administering the drugs, and not the drug. Did anyone ever raise the alarm about some patients turning blue under ether, or hasn't any obstetrician some blue babies to his credit? The cause of the blue baby is use of morphine in late stages of labor. In my first studies in

New England, only women in apparently normal labor were given twilight sleep. In my recent work at Chicago I have seen Cesarian section followed by appendectomy, successfully done under twilight sleep.

It is true that the second stage of labor is somewhat prolonged, but with the mother given the advantage of the first sleeping stage, she still is not suffering the strain she would suffer without twilight sleep.

Scopolamine-morphine with its wonderful anoci properties solves the problem of child bearing and rearing for the highly organized mothers of modern civilization, for it virtually uncouples the brain from the spinal cord, and for the time being leaves the woman a good animal to bear her offspring as easily as any other animal.

Have we a right to deny this boon to the twentieth century woman.

### LIBRARY NOTES.

Several new reference books have been added to the library and although at present we have very few of these, nevertheless the World Almanac and Encyclopedia; Brewer's Readers Handbook; Who's Who in America, each give a world of information. The following books have been catalogued since the last issue of the Pulse:

Norris—Blood Pressure.

Ostwald—Colloid-Chemistry.

Skillern—Accessory Sinuses of the Nose.

Carlson—Control of Hunger.

Bosanquet—Serums, Vaccines and Toxines.

Verworn—Allgemeine Physiologie.

Kaufmann—Speziellen Pathologischen Anatomie.

British Pharmaceutical Index, 1911.

Barger—Simpler Natural Bases.

Jones—Nucleis Acids.

Krough—Respiratory Exchange of Animals and Man.

Complete sets of the *Berichte der Deutschen Chemischen Gesellschaft* and *Practitioner*—London, have been ordered the past week.

No German magazines and very few French are being received. English magazines are coming, but are rather late.

HALLIE WILSON, Librarian.

### A STOMACH EVANGELIST

Billy Sunday is a very attractive man; crowds turn out everywhere to hear him. It's a pity that Mr. Sunday does not talk of the Stomach instead of the Soul. Millions of people are injuring health by abuse of the stomach, and do not know it; they might live better and more healthful lives at one-half the present expense.

The stomach is the most important organ of the body, and nothing is abused so habitually and shamefully. Yet the people do not know this; mainly for the reason that the truth is not taught as industriously as many other things of less importance.

We have capable religious teachers in every city, town, hamlet and remote country place, but we are sadly in need of a Stomach Evangelist.

**COLLEGE TRAINING FOR THE EMBALMER**

Probably no profession has yielded to the stimulus for advancement to a greater extent than that of embalming. The history of embalming dates from antiquity to the scientific preparation of and disposal of bodies. Modern hygiene and sanitation has developed in the last fifty years from superstition, speculation and the unknown to definite sanitary laws and procedures. To conceive that the embalmer should not be a trained man of science is impossible; to grant that he should be able to obtain the highest type of training from colleges and universities is necessary. Civilization is no longer provincial. Intercourse between nations is of every-day occurrence. Death may overtake the traveler in a foreign land and the relatives and friends demand a scientific preparation of the body which will insure its safe arrival many thousand miles away. To this end a few of the colleges and universities of the country have been offering courses in embalming and sanitary science calculated to train men not only in the practical side of embalming and funeral directing, but to offer courses in bacteriology, pathology, anatomy, chemistry, etc., that the student may be given a thorough understanding of the basic principles of his profession and a clear conception of its wonderful possibilities. The embalmer is an all important link in the chain of individuals who have to do with public sanitation. No matter how carefully administered the health laws of the state may be, unless the embalmer be a trained man, thoroughly acquainted with sanitary science, the results to public health may prove disastrous.

The University of Nebraska College of Medicine, recognizing its duties to the citizens of the state, is prepared to furnish instruction in such courses as will tend to increase the efficiency of members of the embalming profession and to aid their proper conception of public health. In order to make courses in embalming and sanitary science efficient, it is very essential that the students desiring these courses shall have had a thorough preliminary training. To this end the University demands at least two years of high school training and a year's practical experience with a licensed embalmer of all candidates. The high plane on which embalming must necessarily rest demands that the members of the profession should be gentlemen of a very high order and that they shall be so trained in their profession that they will enjoy the admiration and respect of the entire community. Embalmers must take their place in the community as men of standing, education and culture. The place of the black-frocked, sympathetic, but bungling undertaker must give way to the gentlemanly, cultured and trained professional man who is none the less sympathetic, but whose scientific care makes for the highest health interests.

This is not idealism. The practical realization of the above is rapidly coming and the day will be hastened by the college courses of embalming which will rapidly take the place of the commercial schools. The embalmer as much as the physician must be an active agent in protecting the community against contagious and communicable diseases and he must have such training as will insure him the

confidence of the people in this regard. The colleges of the country which have taken upon themselves the burden of offering courses in embalming and sanitary science feel a grave responsibility in this matter. No small part of the success of these courses will depend upon the embalming profession itself. If the profession at large will respond to the stimulus of high ideals set forth in better training, more culture and an accurate scientific basis of procedure, surely a new day will dawn for the profession. Embalming is a profession and not a business. The contact with the community is a professional contact and not a mercantile one. To keep this thought constantly before us will insure co-operation on the part of embalmers everywhere.

The University of Nebraska College of Medicine takes this opportunity to acknowledge with much appreciation the splendid efforts put forth by a large number of the Nebraska embalming profession in making the University courses possible, practical and successful.

Omaha, Nov. 11, 1916.

IRVING S. CUTLER.

### FRESHMEN CLASS NOTES

#### The Passing of the Erstwhile Happy Family or—

Up with the sleeves, boys. A new spirit has descended.

“Well, gentlemen, the latest crop has been hatched and the stuff’s off. Our new slate has put us in the little box stalls and we find that ‘there is much land to be possessed.’ Now, our class chaplain has not yet appointed himself, but a good man with rubbers and earmuffs should be able to make a wonderful little christening speech. We need someone to echo the department motto that ‘a setting hen gathers no moss.’”

Our friend, Lissuck, so unkindly dubbed “Unsere Grossmutter,” and likewise the victim of unseemingly newspaper notoriety, has finally come into his own. The wonderful snow of October has brought forth the now famous rubbers and earmuffs. And why not? The answer is yes. The doctor is quite right in believing these little (?) things necessary and the criticism of the enblushing Meyer should at least be frowned upon.

Our classmates, Ford and Angle, are assisting Dr. Barker and Wolcott in the Zoology Department in Lincoln. If they handle vertebrate anatomy, we hope they take out an undertaker’s certificate for six reasons. Ask Stony.

#### Guessing Contest

(Not by Prynthia Prey.)

This is staged for the purpose of getting information circulated in the Freshman class and likewise to take the place of news we would have had, if our busy toilers weren’t busy collecting the United Cigar Coupons on the Louisiana Purchase.

The fine large question, “What kind of a new ‘eight’ has Borg-hoff?”

Murphy is appointed as “Not Prynthia Prey” to answer questions and judge results.

Bite early and avoid the rush.

**MODERN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TRAINING OF STUDENTS  
IN EMBALMING AND SANITARY SCIENCE.**

By C. W. Poynter, Head Anatomy Department

The educating of licensed embalmers in a systematic way and fixing the responsibility for this work on the state educational system is a new idea—so new in fact that it has been taken up nowhere in the serious way it deserves. Judging by the experience of Engineering, Law, Medicine and Dentistry, the time will come when the possible service of adequately trained men in Embalming and Sanitary Science will be realized by society, and then proper training will be furnished. In the space allotted me, I desire to express my idea of what should constitute an ideal course of study and in that way to show not only why the course we are giving is made as it is, but how it may be bettered and expanded.

The training of embalmers is now largely under the apprentice system followed by a short course of lectures given by proprietary schools. Without discussing the efficiency of such a scheme, I may say that just such a system prevailed in Medicine one hundred years ago, and just as in medicine, we are realizing that the system is not adequate for the needs of a modern empalmer. We cannot look to the proprietary schools for a solution of our difficulties, for we know that they are private enterprises run for direct and indirect financial gain to the owners, and their improvement would be so costly as to destroy their primary object; and, also, there are not enough of them.

I do not mean to quarrel with the proprietary schools, but rather to compliment these enterprising gentlemen for having fostered the idea that training is desirable. On the other hand, they, if they are wise, will have no quarrel with the state for developing and broadening this education for furnishing the public they serve with broad-minded, alert men who can see new opportunities and new responsibilities.

At first glance it would seem that we have a very difficult task in making up an ideal course of study and that the specific training of embalmers must be a matter of slow evolution. I am sorry, however, that this need not be true, for not only has pedagogy grown tremendously in the past few years, but we have seen its application to medicine and may immediately benefit by these experiments. Many of the subjects which we must consider are common to our work and to medicine, so that with a slight modification of aim and scope the organization of a part of our work is already at hand.

In every field of education the first consideration is the material on which to work—the student. We can make no plans for courses of study which do not consider first the amount of preparation which our students have had. Entrance requirements are then of primary importance. They cannot be too carefully studied. If we, for the sake of an ideal course of study, place them too high, we will have no students and so defeat our aim of broadening the scope of embalmers' work and making it a strong arm of public health service. On the other hand, if the entrance is low, we will have in students untrained minds which cannot grasp the most fundamental principles of what we want to teach.

After carefully considering the matter with the members of the State Embalmers' Board, it was thought better to place the entrance requirements at two High School years or its equivalent. After two years' experience in this work I am of the opinion that this is the lowest requirement compatible with a successful accomplishment of the work which we give. I feel that as soon as possible this school should go on a regular University basis; that is, a diploma from a four years' high school. We should be more specific, however, and require that every candidate for entrance to the school should have had work in chemistry, physics and biology. Preliminary work in these sciences as a pre-requisite would give us men of such training that they would take up the work of our courses and accomplish with ease what would be an impossibility in the prescribed time for men without such training. I have been told that such preliminary requirements are excessive and needless, which may be true for the past generation, but we are training the embalmers of the next generation who will have new problems and will make new opportunities. It is just as true in this as in other fields that the trained man has an enormous advantage.

The next question that must be answered before we can frame a course of study is how much time must we give to it? Our course assumes six weeks of intensive work which I am satisfied is not enough. Years of observation have taught me that it takes students at least three weeks to "get down" to real study and I find that our embalming boys are no different from Medics in this respect. We have remaining then but four weeks for intensive work and this is not sufficient to cover our course in a satisfactory way. We are tempted—and I imagine yield to the temptation—to cram their heads with a great number of facts, hoping they will digest it later, and sometimes I fear it is "embalmed" and preserved as a souvenir of "when I was in school." Since I am speaking of the ideal course, I would strongly urge that a semester is not too long to spend profitably in this work. If I may be allowed a look into the future, I will say that I believe the time will come when a year will be devoted to this work.

The studies which make up the curriculum are not, I imagine, a source of much debate, for I do not see how any that we have included may well be left out and I know of no others that are of immediate importance. They divide themselves, just as in medicine, into the theoretic or laboratory subjects and the practical ones. This requires a faculty which is made up of full-time teachers for the laboratory subjects and practical men engaged regularly in business, who are willing to draw from their large experience and illustrate on actual subjects the application of the principles which have been presented in the laboratories. It is obvious that a faculty of this type will give the student unquestionably greater opportunities for training and a broader educational development than are possible under a one-man instruction, no matter how great his equipment and ability.

In considering the various subjects in detail I place Anatomy first; not only because of my personal interest, but also because no wide application of the science of embalming is possible without a clear understanding of the human body. I appreciate that one, no matter how ignorant, can be taught to raise a blood vessel and fill it with

fluid without any farther anatomical knowledge, but this, as I consider it, does not constitute scientific work. Our aim then in the Anatomy department is to make the student as familiar as possible with the entire circulatory system, the body cavities and their contents. This acquaintance can only be acquired by dissection of actual material. Landmarks should be worked out, variations should be studied so that in a word, the student becomes familiar with the makeup of the entire body. As I conceive it, it is only after this acquaintance and knowledge that he ceases to be an imitator and is capable of thinking and working for himself. The time devoted to the course at present is insufficient; we should have from 90 to 120 hours for the combined laboratory, lecture and quiz work. A short period tends to develop careless dissections and does not develop the fine technique in the acquisition of which every embalmer should take pride.

Bacteriology should be one of the most important subjects of the curriculum. It is through this that we learn the possible menace that the body is to us when we are working on it and to those who may come into relations with it in the home, at funerals or in transportation. If the course is properly pursued the student becomes familiar with the growth of organisms, their action on high animal life, and their actual appearance. This all involves learning a new type of laboratory work and becoming familiar with the use of the microscope. It is only after we have taken bacteria from dead tissues, transplanted it and grown it in cultures, then studied it under the microscope that we can begin to appreciate the discussion of infection, contamination and sterilization. It is through a thorough acquaintance with this work particularly that embalmers can broaden their field of usefulness in Public Health service. I would not change the work that is given to him except to urge that more time be devoted to it.

Pathology is not as essential as Bacteriology, but some time should be devoted to the subject. Perhaps aside from post mortem examinations which are essential to illustrate gross pathology, it may be a lecture and quiz course dealing with the fundamental pathological processes. The object being to familiarize the embalmer with the processes which have taken place in the body in death from any given cause. The course is naturally connected with Bacteriology, so the two should always be closely correlated.

The course in Chemistry demands careful consideration. The work of Leibig and Woehler opened a new field in chemistry and suggested problems of interest to us which still await solution. For the student then, the chemistry laboratory should be of intense interest on the practical side and an appeal on the theoretic for real scientific research. The course should not only deal with the fundamental chemical reactions, the compounding of fluids and methods of testing them, but also with the theoretic and practical work in Autolysis. It seems to me that this work should be very carefully organized and that at least 150 hours should be devoted to this subject. The commercial houses who are interested in fluids should be glad to co-operate with the department in testing their fluids, just as the great pharmaceutical houses co-operate with the department of Pharmacology in medicine.

This brings us to the consideration of the courses having to deal with the application of our work. It has seemed to me that this work logically falls into three divisions: First, that having to do with the body; second, that having to do with the public; and third, that having to do with the law. Perhaps this division is open to criticism, but it is only presented to facilitate discussion.

Under the first division I have included all of the processes necessary to preserve the body from immediate disintegration, make it proof against spreading contagion and produce satisfactory cosmetic results. This is a broad field and includes all of embalming proper. The problems are so varied that it seems to me different phases of the subject should be assigned to men who have shown particular ability in their several fields. All of this teaching should be in the nature of demonstration first until the student becomes familiar with the principles involved, then the student should be required to do the work, always under the direction and with the help of an expert. It seems to me that as the work is developed certain details of it can be arranged as a laboratory course with much profit to the student. I am quite certain that we fall short of the ideal course at this school in giving too little time to this work and in not having as yet facilities whereby the student may repeatedly carry out the work himself under direction. And finally, no student should be allowed to graduate from the school till he has demonstrated not only by theoretic examinations, but by practical examinations as well, that he is capable of working understandingly and skilfully.

The second division includes those refined and delicate usages in the home or the morgue which make the man not merely a licensed embalmer, but a true and sympathetic friend in the time of bereavement. We have all seen funerals well conducted and also funerals in which everything was in more or less chaos. It seems to me that there is great opportunity here for instruction and that the student should not only have the opportunity of seeing funerals well directed, but should have the benefit of lectures in these subjects by experts in this line. The third division relates to the various contacts which the licensed embalmer has with the law. Here the student should be made familiar with all of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health relating to burial, transportation or disinterment. He should know what forms are necessary to follow to protect the public against crime, to complete the evidence for life insurance or other matters relating to estates, and finally he should know how to legally present his claim so that he may receive pay for his services.

This brief review of a course of study contemplates much work on the part of the faculty and more on the part of the students if we are to turn out trained alert men who are able to think for themselves and make new opportunities for themselves. Pasteur said, "In the fields of observation, chance favors only the mind which is prepared." I think by chance he meant the innumerable opportunities all around us, and the prepared mind is the trained mind which creates rather than imitates. If the embalmer's field of activity is to broaden, and it is expanding, it will be the prepared mind which will effect these



changes. To have prepared minds we must have schools organized and run for the best good of the students.

These general observations cover, in a general way, in my opinion, the cardinal principles which should govern the organization of a modern school for embalmers. First, the school must have a sufficient financial budget so that it does not depend on student fees for maintenance; second, high entrance requirements; third, extensive laboratory instruction based on observation and experiments; fourth, practical instruction in morgue and funeral work; and fifth, a course of this type of sufficient length that the student may have time for a thorough mastery of all that he is privileged to see.

The success of this or any other school of this type will depend on the student support. The state cannot afford to engage in work of the kind unless there is a real need for it, and the only proof of such a need is the request of students.

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**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION,  
ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS  
OF AUGUST 24, 1912**

Of The Pulse, published monthly at Omaha, Neb., for Oct. 1, 1916:

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Nebraska, Douglas County, personally appeared Roy T. Mauer, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the business manager of The Pulse.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor and business manager are:

Publisher—A. E. Guenther, 42d and Dewey Ave. (Chairman Publication Board).

Editor—R. Brewer, 42d and Dewey Ave.

Business Manager—Roy T. Mauer, 4201 Harney St.

2. That there are no bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding bonds, mortgages or other securities.

(Signed) ROY T. MAUER, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of October, 1916.

MARGARET QUINLIN.

My commission expires Dec. 20, 1919.

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Nothing seems to have a more powerful hold on the people than "the story." The Country Gentleman is now running a sereal entitled "Wildfire," and one of the scenes is a man criminally assaulting a woman. All "stories" must have "action"; editors insist upon it. Any "story" except the occasional masterpieces is so ridiculous that you wonder this class of writing is so universally popular. Most of them are not only uninteresting and unnatural, and filthy with the sex lure, but silly.—Ed Howe's Monthly.

**HISTORICAL ENDS OF OUR PROFESSION**

By J. Carl Gifford

We of the present generation who are privileged to live in this twentieth century amidst its wonderful discoveries and inventions and its great progress in art and science, have among many others, one dominating fault. We are too willing to cut the "guy-strings of indebtedness" which are, by ordinary course of human existence, attached to our banners of success. It seems but natural for us to neglect to give proper credit to the wonderful work of all preceding generations.

We find this particularly true in the science of modern embalming. This science which today we find among our professions, is one of the oldest. We know by its success in the art of preservation, the science of embalming held the highest degree of perfection of any of the early age sciences. And it seems peculiarly appropriate that Egypt—that land of mystery—should have this first knowledge of the successful preservation of the human dead.

This early art of embalming originated with the Egyptians. They apparently had but one ambition however—that of permanent preservation even at the end of 3,000 years, in order that the body might remain in a satisfactory condition for the home-coming soul. Herodotus, the Greek historian, tells us the Egyptians were the first people to believe that the soul is immortal. In addition to this fact, they thought that this immortal tenant of the human frame would never fully abandon its place of habitation so long as the body withstood the ravages of corruption. Embalming but emphasized their idea that if a body be kept from putrefaction its immortal tenant would revisit it from time to time, and eventually take up its abode once more.

Egyptian embalming seems to have been practiced by physicians who specialized in the art. They were men of high standing and associates of the priests, at all time having access to the temple as sacred persons.

This embalming process as practiced by the Egyptians required considerable time for its performance, the exact time depending, of course, upon the sort of operation employed. The first class process, the sort which was probably used on the body of a Pharaoh, or other sacred persons, required the greatest length of time. We find that one division of this lengthy process consumed some seventy days and cost about 250 pounds, or \$1,250. We have records of other methods which required less time and cost about 60 pounds.

The Jews adopted much the same method of embalming as that practiced by the Egyptians; but were not as successful. Their ambition seemed to be that of successful deodorization rather than permanent preservation.

The funeral rites of the Romans and many other nations embraced embalming in some form. The Romans embalmed and then cremated their dead. Records show that the art was practiced by the Scythians, the Ethiopians, the Persians, the Assyrians and the Greeks, the latter acquiring the art through their conquests.

In Prescott's "Conquest of Peru" we learn that embalming was practiced very early on the Western Continent. The art was not unknown among the North American Indians. Mummies remarkably well preserved have been found in various parts of this country, many in the entucky caves.

Some of the earliest records of modern embalming date back to the work of Dr. Frederic Ruysch about 1700. The Ruyschian method was very successful in obtaining preservation, but this method, for some reason, was lost to the succeeding generations. We have on record, however, the work and methods employed by William and John Hunter about 1760, and today perfect specimens prepared by them are found in the Royal College of Surgeons, London. The Hunterian method was practiced with or without modification by many succeeding British, French, Spanish and Italian anatomists.

The title of "The Father of American Embalming" justly belongs to Dr. Thomas Holmes of Brooklyn, N. Y., who, during our Civil War embalmed many bodies and was very successful in securing their preservation.

As long as embalming has been practiced it has been successful in preserving the human dead body, but only in recent years has this condition been obtained unattended by very objectionable methods and with satisfactory results. In no way do we compare the so-called "lost art" with modern conditions in the embalming world.

Today, instead of entering the home heavily laden with hundred pounds weights of myrrh, aloes, saffron and cassia, and burdened with opobalsamum, the skilled embalmer enters with but a small grip of modern instruments and chemicals which he uses in a truly scientific manner. With these instruments he performs a simple operation on the dead body in order that the lifeless tissues may again be nourished and may be not only preserved, but put in a sanitary condition in order that those near and dear may with safety come in contact with them, and that these same tissues may, insofar as man's ability will permit, appear as in life.

It is these accomplishments which are demanded of the twentieth century embalmer and only by higher education has their attainment been made possible.

As during life we have cared for the body, made in God's own image, let us, in recognition of the temple it has been—of the soul and its Creator—give to it all the deference we can offer, when this soul shall have passed on to dwell in it no more.

Note—The writer is indebted to the work of 1899 of Eliab Myres, M. D., in the preparation of this article.

### INSTALLATION OF PHI CHI.

The University of Nebraska Chapter of the Phi Chi Fraternity was formally installed, November 4, 1916, at the home of the Fraternity, 3817 Farnam. Nineteen men were initiated, sixteen of whom went in as charter members.

Nebraska has every reason to be proud of the placing of a Phi Chi

chapter in the University. Phi Chi is a national fraternity of 38 chapters, the Nebraska chapter being the 39th to be installed. The geographical distribution of the Fraternity is all that could be desired. Besides being well represented in the east, it is exceptionally strong on the west coast, as well as chapters throughout the middle west, the North and the South. Phi Chi ranks at present as the largest Medical Fraternity in America in point of members.

The men who were initiated were: Mac Quiddy and Wear, Juniors; Morris, Misko, Wegner, Rogers, Lamphere, Deal, Edmisten, Freidel and Greiss, Sophomores; Jones, Stewart, Church, Eyerly, Gerrie, Graham, Brown, Freshmen. Of the faculty in the University building Doctors Peters and Myers, and of the Clinical Staff, Doctors Ballard, Nilsson and Wigton have been initiated as honorary members.



### CLUCK-CLUCK JOKE.

First Cluck: I'm buying some wrapping for our stiff.

Second Cluck: Tee Hee, our's don't need any. He's wrapt in thought.

### JUNIOR CLASS NOTES.

Dr. A. A. Johnson (after listening to Losey toss the cow): "We all know you have a lot of outside affairs to attend to, but don't let that worry you!"

Losey: "I seem to be in wrong."

Dr. Pilcher asks in a written examination to briefly give the action of caffeine, and receives the following succinct answer: "Caffein increases the flow thought and urine."

Another one with black-rimmed glasses says: "Caffein stimulates the cyclic areas." Give him the dog. He wins.

To cap the climax, who put the stall in peristalsis?

Here's a joke made in Omaha. Why is a Ford like a Creighton class room? Ans. Because there's a crank in front and a lot of nuts behind.

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### PHI RHO SIGMA

The Fourteenth Annual Alumni and Initiation Banquet was held at the Hotel Fontanelle on the evening of November 3. Besides the active chapter and ten new initiates, there were thirty-five alumni present, many of them being from such far away places as Montana and Wyoming. We were mighty glad to see Dr. MacDonald, Dr. Chambers, Lane, Scott, Potter, Morris, Humpes and many others who came back to gather around the festive board. We hope to see them back next year.

Dr. W. A. Anderson has been elected president of the Alumni Association. This event, in connection with the new uniform system of dues, makes us think that there will be "something stirrin'" next year.

A fraternity dance was held at the Hotel Castle the evening of October 28. Music furnished by Pinkard's Orchestra. This has been one of the most enjoyable dances of the year.

C. G. Newbecker, who is at Northwestern this year, wrote to Iota, saying that so far everything looks good, although he says he may change his mind after the mid-semester exams.

Fellows are already starting to compose "poems" (?) for our annual Xmas tree.

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### NU SIGMA PHI NOTES

The Nu Sigma Phi gave a reception to the lady physicians of Lincoln, Council Bluffs and Omaha on the evening of November 3 in the second floor parlor at the Y. W. C. A. A pleasing program was given, consisting of a piano solo by Mrs. Louis Kyhl nee Helen Sadilek; vocal music by Mrs. Fred Mundel, Linwood, Neb., and readings by Miss Marguerite Scott, Omaha. Mrs. Emelia Brandt greeted the guests in behalf of the sorority and stated in a brief way the desire of the members to meet the women who are already in practice and to feel a more personal intimacy with them. The colors of the sorority, green and white, were used in decorating, and white roses were the flowers used. The color scheme was also used in the refreshments, which were daintily served by Miss Helen Kreyborg and Miss Pauline Chaloupka.

The members of the sorority enjoyed a theater party at the Brandeis on October 27.

Following the regular business meeting held in Dr. Stasny's office on October 16, the sorority took dinner together at the Y. W. C. A.

Miss Dorcas Christansen was a welcome visitor at college recently. She reports her work in the high school at Verdon as very pleasant.

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