

There are further two undergraduate Sub-Editors, appointed to see to the interests of their student colleagues: One of these Sub-Editors contributes an article in this issue which sets forth their functions.

The general policy of the Journal is that it shall be of interest not only to the medical faculty of the University, but also to the entire medical profession of Johannesburg. Therefore the paper will consist of a scientific portion in addition to a more social one which the undergraduate need demands. In this scientific section it is hoped to present articles by senior members of the profession, which articles will be of great interest and value. It is particularly stressed that the Journal is intended as much for the specialist or general practitioner of Johannesburg as for the undergraduate. The success of the venture depends in large measure on the support it receives from the medical public. It is hoped that the ideal aimed at and the intrinsic value of its contents will render "The Leech" of interest to the profession in this city. From all its members contributions are cordially invited.

Our University to-day numbers teachers from every famous University of Great Britain and Ireland and from many great Continental and Dominion Schools. The student here has the unique opportunity of gaining the richest harvest from the world's greatest masters without going abroad to gather it, as his teachers give it him at second-hand. Tradition is a child who is only named when he is centuries old. By building up a teaching system of our own we are unwittingly making tradition of our own School. "The Leech" is a concrete means to this end.

It is hoped that the aim of this venture will justify the enterprise, aided by such intrinsic worth as its contributors can bestow upon it.

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## IN MEMORIAM.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of one of our senior teachers in the Medical School, Dr. R. W. B. Gibson, late Senior Gynecologist to the Johannesburg Hospital and Senior Lecturer in Gynecology at the University. Dr. Gibson was of a modest and retiring nature, and never sought the limelight. On the contrary, he hated publicity of any sort and, therefore, he was possibly not as well known to the larger body of medical students as some of us would have liked him to be. This is much to be regretted, for his was a character to be admired. Someone has said that "Gibson was all that a Doctor should be," and never was a truer word spoken. Dignified, imperturbable, and gravely courteous as he was, no one had a keener sense of humour than he had.

Born at Harrismith in 1883, he was educated at Michaelhouse (Natal) and Jesus College, Cambridge, and subsequently at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where he received his medical education, qualifying in 1910. At School and at College he was known as a good sportsman and played regularly in representative matches for School and College.

In later years he became a keen golfer and was a member of Johannesburg, Parkview and Maccaulei Golf Clubs.

He was appointed to the Johannesburg Hospital as House Surgeon in 1911, subsequently in turn holding appointments as House Physician, Anaesthetist and Registrar. Then, during the Superintendent's absence

on active service, he was appointed Acting Superintendent. Later on, he saw active service himself in France. While on a voyage in the East after qualifying, he incurred a tropical infection apparently, and, although since commencing private practice, it never actually incapacitated him for long, it must of necessity have undermined his health.

He was appointed to the Honorary Staff of the Hospital in 1920 as Assistant Gynecologist, and was promoted to the Senior Staff in 1923.

Under the strain of a large practice, which from its special nature was particularly arduous, added to hospital work and the lack of opportunities for regular holidays, he ultimately broke down, and had to take to his bed on the 10th of October suffering from pneumonia, from which he died on the 19th October.

The loss sustained by the Hospital, the Medical School, and the medical profession at large in South Africa is great, for apart from his generally acknowledged efficiency at his work, Dr. Gibson brought to bear a rare judgment in the discussions of affairs in the Councils of the Profession. He served the profession, as represented by the Medical Association, from time to time in different capacities, and in 1927 was President of the South Transvaal Branch of the Medical Association of South Africa, his year of office being remarkable for the real progress which was made in organisation.

To his widow and daughter we tender our sincere sympathies in their sad bereavement.

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#### DR. M. BARANOV.

Johannesburg Hospital and the Witwatersrand University have sustained a great loss by the tragic and unexpected death of Dr. M. Baranov; the profession, students and colleagues alike, will mourn a beloved friend and a deservedly popular member.

Born in Vryheid, Natal, he received his school education at the King Edward School, Johannesburg, where he matriculated. He then proceeded to University College, London, to take up his medical studies, qualifying there in 1915.

Both at School and at University he endeared himself to his fellows as a fine sportsman and good friend.

For some years he then held a post as Resident Medical Officer at Moorfield Eye Hospital, London, where he was acclaimed by his colleagues as one of the most brilliant of the younger ophthalmic surgeons, being awarded his M.D. (London), and D.O.M.S. (Eng.) in 1920.

During the war he served in France with the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Returning to Johannesburg he set up in practice as a consultant ophthalmic surgeon, and soon established a reputation for his skill in his work and for his kindness to his patients.

In 1924 he was appointed Honorary Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon to Johannesburg Hospital and Honorary Assistant Lecturer in Diseases of the Eye at the Witwatersrand University.

Since his association with the Johannesburg Hospital and the University Dr. Baranov has always identified himself with student activities on the Witwatersrand, and it was seldom that one did not find his cheerful personality at University functions.

The medical profession feels deeply the loss of one of its most brilliant and popular members.

To his widow and members of his family we offer our sincerest sympathy in their great bereavement.