

NMA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP



A \$1,000 scholarship from the National Medical Association was presented Thursday to John Allen Walker, a freshman medical student at Duke University. Walker, of Brooklyn, N.Y., and graduate of Columbia University was handed the scholarship award by Dr. Charles D. Watts, a Durham physician and member of the National Medical Association. Assisting in the presentation was Dr. William G. Anlyan, Dean of the School of Medicine at Duke.

Peace

DEAN'S HOUR SCHEDULE

Spring 1968

- Jan. 4 Dr. Robert Q. Marston, Director of NIH Regional Medical Programs.
- Jan. 11 Mrs. Ethel Nash, Clinical Associate Professor, Ob & Gyn, UNC, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- Jan. 18 Mr. Gerard Peil, Publisher & President, Scientific American, New York, New York.
- Jan. 25 Dr. Brian Blades, Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 1 Dr. Arend Bouhuys, John B. Pierce Foundation Laboratory, New Haven, Connecticut.
- Feb. 8 Dr. William O. Baker, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Holmdel, New Jersey.
- Feb. 15 Major Frank Camp, Division of Thoracic Surgery, U.S.A.F., Andrews A.F.B., Maryland.
- Feb. 22 Dr. John C. Lilly, Director, Communications Research Institute, Miami, Florida.
- Feb. 29 Dr. Francis D. Moore, Moseley, Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, and Surgeon-in-Chief, Peter Bent Brigham.
- Mar. 7 Dr. Seymour L. Halleck, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisc.
- Mar. 14 Dr. Robert Petersdorf, Chairman of the Department of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.
- Mar. 21 Dr. Norton Zinder, Rockefeller University, New York, New York.

All lectures are held in the Hospital Amphitheatre at 5:00 p.m., and are preceded by an informal coffee-tea reception in the Hospital Dining Room, at 4:30 p.m.



Christmas Lost

Every 12 months, the same phrases, words and hoopla! I tell you, it is something to guard against. Only by shielding yourself from the rampant goodwill and indiscriminate smiles can you be certain to maintain that characteristic preoccupation with your own problems. You must be disciplined to withstand the onslaught that people make upon your demeanor. You must fix your mind on your personal needs and the solution of your problems or quite inadvertently a responsive reaction to their cheer may overcome you. This responsive reaction may be accompanied by an uncomfortable emotional involvement. You must exert yourself to prevent such unfortunate incidents from occurring. If these joy makers actually do get to you there will still be some hope for you to regain your "cool" and return to closer identification with your own achievements.

As you know, the period for their celebration is rather brief - perhaps only a couple of weeks. They ooze charity and goodness this brief while, and if you can maintain a detached observation for this duration, you will humorously survive. It is an interesting phenomenon, I must say. They go through weeks and months sometimes without a friendly word in the performance of their routine tasks. (This is easy enough since there are around 4200 people in the Medical Center and incogitant deeds are rather simply performed and concealed.) Then all of a sudden they expect you to react to their new real selves - all love and charm. SICK - something SICK! I mean everyone over 18 months old knows the white bearded reindeer rider is a fickle fable, and it certainly can't be a birthday party for their religious leader since the celebration is marked by drunkenness and commercialism.

Why all this super sweet hypocrisy for a few weeks then? In spite of these appropriately cynical observations, may I caution you that abrasiveness or bluntness may be inhibited by this "spirit of something" if you are not careful. And don't be impressed by having to hear the redundant words and phrases like "happy, merry, best wishes, etc." It really is regurgitable, isn't it? Another humorous aspect of this whole matter is the "peace on earth" stuff. These people have had their "head in the sand" so long that they can parrot the phrase without batting an eyelash. The only time of the year that Vietnam gets second page is when Santa Claus comes to town. Of course, they forget this "peace on earth" after the first of the year and it rarely crosses through their minds again 'till next December. Anyway, it's hilarious that they can keep a straight face when they talk of peace.

At the moment, I haven't thought of much we can do about their "much ado." I would hope that those of us who conscientiously object would work quietly toward moving the celebration from December to July. The seasonal heat will inhibit many of the celebrants; and vacations will hopefully be detrimental to their unification. The next step would be to do away with the celebration altogether. The only real potential danger of this is the possibility, however slight, that the people would gain an insight into the real significance of a Savior's birth. If this prompted them to be charitable and loving 52 weeks of the year, I doubt that we could stand it... Scrooge.