

"Because of the weather ..."

Nature infrequently blesses these climes with precipitation in frozen forms. Ergo, when the great, grey sky offers down its bounty, striking changes occur in the emotional as well as physical environment. Pent-up tensions find release; boredom born of the mundane vanishes; the threat of common disaster levels the social structure with high and low alike sharing the exhilaration. Recitations to one's fellows of the adventures encountered and obstacles overcome in commuting to and from the duty station are matchless in depth of detail and fervor of delivery.

The locals, with one eye on the outside and the other on the boss, speculate ceaselessly among themselves about the necessity and possibility of leaving early. The outlanders, reared in colder regions, derive smug satisfaction from recollections of much worse days experienced back home in the long-ago and share perversely in the excitement by downgrading it. Sprinkled throughout all groups are the heroes who make it on time in spite of everything, dauntless in their determination. Counterbalancing the wearisome merit-seeking are the cowards (sometimes read chiselers) ever ready to chuck it all and head for the hibernating shelters until the Bermuda highs take over.

Few events, whether politics or other sporting exploits of all types, can measure up to the genuine mental therapeutic opportunities opened up when the announcer drones on..." Because of the weather tax-listing at the H.O. Kelly Store has been cancelled for the day. Everybody is invited to the Playworld to see the finest collection of sleds available anywhere in this area at the lowest possible prices."

Anonymous Dept. Head



From the Aesculapian

Have you noticed all the posters around the Medical Center for the *Aesculapian* the past few weeks? Have you wondered, "What is an *Aesculapian*?" Well, the *Aesculapian* is the official Duke University Medical Center Yearbook and this year its staff is trying even harder to live up to their title, which is not an easy task. For instance, did you know that there are over four thousand employees in the Medical Center? And the *Aesculapian* is going to have many pictures of both groups and individuals; the housekeeper, the secretary, the LPN are every bit as much a part of DUMC as the student and doctor.

This yearbook will have a complete directory of everybody in the Center, so don't be surprised if your supervisor asks for an up-to-date address, or announces that you should be at such-and-such a place one morning for a picture. In fact, they would like your help, your ideas, whether on layout, advertising, or a better way to get things done. Their box number is 2889 Hospital, so feel free to chastise them or compliment them - they need everyone's support.

CCU Finds a Way to Say Thanks



For over a year the nursing staff on the coronary care unit hoped they could find some tangible way of thanking two very special people whose interest and enthusiasm have kept the unit in top working order. The opportunity to do so came when two major pieces of equipment were purchased for the Myocardial Infarction Research Unit (MIRU), an integral part of the CCU.

In keeping with the common practice of naming large pieces of electronic equipment to keep them easily identifiable, a surprise dedication ceremony was arranged. On December 19th, at the annual CCU Christmas party, all proceedings stopped temporarily at which time a new Corbin Farnsworth defibrillator was christened "Zipper" in honor of Dr. Douglas Zipes (above left), cardiac fellow, and a new vector machine was nicknamed "Winky" in honor of Mr. Gene Wilkie (above right), electronics technician in the Communications Department.

In Dr. Zipes' year and a half association with the CCU he has continually encouraged "his" nurses to upgrade their education and to become self-directing in their expanding role as cardiac specialists. When the emphasis in coronary care switched from treatment to prevention, Dr. Zipes volunteered a portion of his extremely rare free time to teach the nurses his personal brand of physical diagnosis. He tackled this project with characteristic zeal and at times was criticized by his colleagues for trying to make his pupils "super-nurses". His rationale, however, was that to aid the doctor in his attempt to practice preventive medicine, the nurse needs to understand and appreciate the value of diagnostic signs used by the physician to warn him of complications.

Gene Wilkie has been a close member of the CCU team since its inception almost two and one half years ago. During that time he has been responsible for all of the monitors, defibrillators, and other specialized equipment necessary to keep the unit running smoothly. The maintenance headaches he has to put up with are enormous, and how he manages to keep smiling after a day's work is a miracle. He makes a point of coming up to the unit several times a day, without waiting to be called, and on several occasions he has come in on his day off. When it was discovered that he routinely read memos and messages on the nurses' bulletin board, his comment was, "It's the only way I can keep up with what's going on around here, otherwise I'd never know what kind of devilishness you girls are cooking up!" It's gotten so that now he even writes a few notes of his own.