

The JOURNAL

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College of Medical Evangelists

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Elton Morel, '30,

KATANGA, BELGIAN CONGO

I spent five months in Bruxelles, Belgium, at the government School of Tropical Medicine and secured my license to practice in the Belgian Congo. We had a very pleasant trip down the West Coast of Africa and arrived in Cape Town on March 9. On the way up from the Cape we spent nine days in Bechuanaland visiting Dr. Archie Tong at the Kanye Medical Mission where Dr. Kretchmar used to be. At Elisabethville, I spent a month at the Belgian government native hospital before coming on up to the Songa Mission.

The Songa Mission is due west of Lake Tanganyika. We are not very far from the equator. The climate isn't at all disagreeable here as the altitude of 4500 feet or more helps to keep the place quite cool. Although there has been no rain for the past three months, at no time has the heat been as intense as it used to be at Loma Linda during the summer. This section of the Congo is quite typical of the African veldt with its rolling prairies covered with tall grass four to ten feet in height. Along the rivers and ravines are heavily wooded jungle districts which remain green all year. During the dry season the grass becomes very dry and is burned off during July and August. Such events are celebrated in true native style as there is quite a little game near here and the natives have quite a feast after a successful "fire hunt."

The mission hospital is a nicely constructed brick building of four rooms consisting of a surgery, utility room, and two rooms for patients. We need a new ward and have the promise of one shortly if our appropriations aren't cut too much

this next year. We have to put three patients in each room a good share of the time and by the time three or four relatives surround each patient, the place is pretty well crowded—particularly at night when all the relatives sleep on the floor under the beds! We also have a small but very conveniently arranged dispensary building. About a quarter of a mile from the hospital we have a well-laid-out sick village of ten houses in which the ambulatory dispensary patients stay while they are here at the mission for treatment. We are just starting a leper colony and so far we have five lepers. The leper dispensary building was just built a year ago. Before long we hope to have a good sized colony.

At the dispensary we average about four hundred patient visits a week with a total of about two hundred individual patients. In the way of tropical diseases at the dispensary we have malaria, recurrent tick fever, hook worm, intestinal and urinary infections due to bilharzia, yaws, and tropical ulcers. Most of our hospital patients are surgical and obstetrical, with a few pneumonia patients. Although these natives here in Africa may be very ignorant and uncivilized, yet practicing medicine among them is not so different from building up a private practice in America. Many people in America apparently have the idea that a doctor in Africa on a mission station has a wonderful time getting experience by practicing on the natives. A doctor does get a valuable experience in a mission field but most of these natives aren't any more ready and willing to have a doctor practice on them than white people are in America. Since being here in the Congo I have been thankful many times over for the excellent training and

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experience I had during my second year internship at the Sacramento Hospital, particularly in surgery. Out here most of the surgical cases one gets are not the easiest to care for. Of the three hernias I did during the past month, one was a strangulated hernia of twenty-four hours duration. The other two were enormous scrotal hernias of many years duration, both of which so filled the scrotum that it extended nearly to the knee joint. There are many goiters in this region but the people rarely come for an operation until the goiter is so large that it interferes with moving the neck or causes difficulty in swallowing and breathing. It is the same way in gynecological conditions. Ovarian cysts and uterine tumors are allowed to grow until the abdomen is the size of a pregnancy at term before help is sought. Most of the natives go to their witch doctors for treatment first and then come to the white doctor as a last resort. To lose a medical patient is not quite so serious, but a surgical mortality to a native is absolutely unexplainable and if a new doctor should be so unfortunate as to have one, the usual result is that most of the patients vanish for a few weeks or more and don't usually return until they have forgotten about it or become so desperately ill that they return to the doctor in spite of their fears. I am sure that the responsibility in surgery here is far greater than in private practice in America. Here you dare not explain to the patient the risk he is taking in submitting to an operation or he never would think of consenting to it. If anything unfortunate does occur, it is always the doctor's fault!

One learns to ask for and depend on God's help and assistance in caring for patients out here in Africa. The first month I was here a woman from a nearby village was brought in with a severe infection in one breast which had been "treated" by the witch doctor for several

days. A day or two later an abscess formed which I opened and drained. In spite of all we did for her she steadily grew worse, became delirious, and ran a temperature of 107.8 with a pulse of 160. The husband and relatives were sure we had killed her by opening the abscess. We had special prayer that God would restore her to health and not allow discredit to come on our work, for the relatives said we were no better than their witch doctors. Although she had been running a fever above 105 for nearly a week and appeared to have but a short time to live, her temperature suddenly dropped to normal over night and from that time she steadily regained her health. She, her husband, and several people of her village have joined the Bible class as a result of her stay at the hospital. It truly is a source of great comfort and encouragement to know that there is a God in heaven who can and is willing to help and bless our humble efforts. There is no more effective way of interesting a native in our religion than to help him medically.

There are many things that I could most conveniently use if I had them such as a suction apparatus, new instruments for eye surgery, a set of lenses for testing eyes, and a few other instruments for the specialties, but I believe the thing I would appreciate most would be a good pair of obstetrical forceps. There is a small rather antiquated pair here on the mission but they are miserable instruments to use, as I well found out a few weeks ago. What I should like most would be a good pair of Kielland Obstetrical Forceps.

Although there are several inconveniences in living in a place like this, such as getting mail only every two weeks; being five hundred miles away from the nearest town which has a white population of only six hundred; living in a house

that is nearly ready to fall down because the white ants have eaten out most of the walls and roof; having one's small salary cut ten per cent every six months because of the depression and shortage of mission funds; both my wife and I are very happy here in the Belgian Congo and are enjoying our work immensely.

John W. Foy, '29 of Bulsar, India, writes: "I enjoy 'DID YOU KNOW THAT' and I hope for its reappearance on my humble desk quite regularly. We are out of the stream and isolated from the bunch over here so word about the fellows hits a responsive spot."

Under date of Oct. 18, Frank Ingle, '31, writes from Southern Rhodesia: "We are now at Gwelo, the nearest town to the mission. This is because the hospital there was not ready and there was an opening here. I run out there, twenty-two miles, every Wednesday and as often as needed other times. I have more than paid expenses here in the two months that we have been in town."

A study of history forms for general office practice will be made by a committee to be appointed by the Board. Any one having a system which meets the needs is asked to mail forms and suggestions to the Alumni Office.

Adrian Clark, '21, finding it necessary to return from Nuzvid, South India, to care for his father, is now in Los Angeles.

Douglas Semmens, '23, is in charge of our mission hospital at Nuzvid, South India.

George C. Bergman, '24, is returning to Abyssinia soon after the first of the year.

Sponsors, and members with paid-up dues, of the Alumni Association for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1933, will be so designated in the Directory which will be issued in lieu of the January Journal. Do we have your additional degrees and correct address?

"Cal" Kellogg, age four months, son of Irving W. Kellogg, '32, of Baldwin Park, Calif., is already making plans to follow in the anatomical footsteps of his grandfather, L. C. Kellogg, '22!

JACOB JANZEN, '31, FT. JAMESON, N. E. RHODESIA

Mrs. Janzen and I have just returned from an evangelistic tour. We have held meetings in sixteen villages located about forty miles from our mission. We have averaged five meetings a day. A nearly blind native evangelist serves us as interpreter and we are his guides. We enter a village, call on the chief and ask him for permission to speak to his people. He calls the people together and we preach a sermon, have prayer, and treat the sick.

The greatest handicap in our evangelistic work is the slowness with which people gather for the meetings. We know of only one remedy—band instruments! If we could obtain some sort of loud musical instruments which we ourselves or our native evangelists could play, I am sure the people would come running to hear the music. Once they are together, we have no difficulty in holding their attention with suitable topics impressively presented. Perhaps some of the Alumni have used brass instruments which they are not using and which they would like to donate to this good cause. If so, they could be sent to us with not much cost provided you would declare their value low enough because we have to pay twenty to twenty-five per cent customs entry duty.

FOR SALE: Fully equipped office in Los Angeles. Established seven and a half years.

ALUMNI SPONSORS TO-DATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JULY 1, 1933

Anderson, Harry E.	Christensen, A. C.	Kosky, Adolph W.	Schmidt, David
Arnold, Russell M.	Erickson, H. A.	Kosky, Alfred A.	Schlotthauer, A. D.
Ayres, Samuel	Fagan, Shuler	Lee, Fred J.	Scoles, H. E.
Balkins, A. J.	Getzlaff, E. E.	Macpherson, W. E.	Shipley, Roy
Barnes, R. W.	Ham, George	Magan, S. S.	Smart, Leslie
Becker, John	Hamer, Clemen	Magan, W. P.	Stanton, L. H.
Beem, Marvel	Hanze, Henry	Memmler, Ruth L.	Starr, Russell
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Burwell, L. C.	Haskell, Ethel Andre	Mullinnex, M. E.	Steen, E. J.
Cady, F. P.	Haskell, Joe S.	Mundall, B. P.	Taylor, G. Mosser
Charland, E. W.	Hebard, F. M.	Mulder, E. I.	Thomason, George
Coeur-Barron, F.	Hill, Malcolm	Nelson, Arthur N.	Thompson, Alden C.
Colver, B. N.	Hippach, R. M.	Petersen, Harold	Thompson, Oliver
Courville, Cyril	Jensen, Walter	Ray, Earl B.	Wade, E. Marion
	Kellogg, L. C.	Rees, Dee M.	

Did You Know That

The Alumni Office has received reprints of two articles by Drs. Garnet Cheney and Frederick Niemand entitled "A Possible Relationship of Pancreatic Insufficiency to Addison-Biermer (Pernicious Anemia)," and "The Treatment of Secondary Anemia with 'Secondary Anemia Liver Extract' and Iron." Dr. Niemand, '30, is Instructor in Medicine at the Stanford University Medical School.

Harry W. Perrin, '33, is enjoying his work at the Maryland General Hospital, Baltimore.

Russell M. Arnold, '29, of Avon Lake, Ohio, writes: "While I think of it, I am mailing you a sponsorship check for the year . . . I am doing general work in a locality along Lake Erie, twenty miles just west of Cleveland, and enjoy my practice very much. The territory affords a mixture of city, suburban and rural practice . . . The people are religiously very much Catholic but as I have had the opportunity of caring for two of the priests, I feel I am on quite good terms with them."

On November 8, the Santa Monica population increased from 37,190 to 37,191 due to the arrival of Florence Anne Mortensen, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Elmer Mortensen, '31.

Dr. and Mrs. Harold Mourer, '29, visited Jean and Daniel Babcock, '29, at Placerville, Calif., the latter part of October.

Harold L. Schlotthauer, '31, of Bakersfield, is practicing with Dr. Joe Smith, superintendent of the Kern County Hospital. They have offices in the Haberfeld Bldg.

G. Ed Norwood, '32, writes from Nampa, a Nazarene college town in Idaho, that he is working hard and collecting, SOME!

The following from A.M.M.C. were present at the Alumni Reunion, Oct. 16: Benton N. Colver, Roy Manning Clarke, D. D. Comstock, Newton Evans, Henry Harrower, Lillian Magan, Benjamin E. Nicola, W. Mortensen, George Thomason, Wilburn Smith, T. S. Whitelock, and William W. Worster.

C. Edward Schultz, '21, returned Nov. 4 from a trip through Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon. He visited Preston Byington, '24, at Modesto. He reports that Marvin Moore, '32, is occupying the former Central California Conference office at Fresno and is doing well.

Kenneth Hagen, '32, is doing two weeks' locum tenens for Henry Hanze, '25, at Solvang, California.

The Alumni Assn. is very grateful to O. B. Pratt, '24, for the use of his office for the past year. Now that the old clinical laboratory building is being demolished to clear the site for the construction of a new laboratory building, the Alumni office has been moved to Dr. G. Mosser Taylor's office which is across the hall from the old library at the White.

If you are going on a vacation and wish some one to do locum tenens, or if you know of available openings, kindly communicate with the Placement Bureau of the Alumni Assn.

The new address of J. Guild Wood, '25, is 301½ S. Catalina St., L. A.

Herman F. Ermshar, '31, is on the Out-Patient Attending Staff of the John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

Julian C. Gant, '28, has just completed a P. G. course in Cardiology conducted by the Harvard Medical School at the Massachusetts General Hospital under the direction of Dr. Paul White, and is back at the Melrose Sanitarium.

Arnold Stevens, '30, is taking a Fellowship in Surgery and Giles Koelsche, '31, is taking a Fellowship in Medicine at Mayo's.

O. I. Cutler, '24, has returned to the Loma Linda Division after spending the summer relieving in the Department of Pathology at the University of Chicago.

Claude Steen, '18, reports the following members in attendance at the Interstate Postgraduate Medical Assembly Assn. of North America held at Indianapolis, Oct. 24 to 28: E. H. Risley, A. E. Coyne, A. R. Dickson, B. E. Grant, H. M. Walton, H. G. Hadley, R. C. Leggett, E. E. Rippey, T. E. Ward, S. S. Magan, W. L. Mortensen, and E. C. Mitchell.

Delbert and Doris McNamara, '29, called at Loma Linda, Nov. 11, en route to Imperial Valley to visit Drs. T. E. Bartholomew and O. L. Webster, '28.

Herbert C. Honor, '32, writes: "Dr. Vera Ocker-Honor and I have been practicing in Cotati, Calif., for over six weeks and enjoy it very much here. There is only one other doctor in town and he is an elderly gentleman. . . . We do not collect as much for tonsillectomies as in L. A. but we make a living. . . . We would be interested in some used nose and throat and gynecological instruments; also scales for weighing adults and infants."

Walter S. Jensen's ('24) sponsorship envelope bears the return: Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

A postal card from Arsen Arzoo, '22, of Pergasse 2/10 Wien XV, Vienna, Austria, says: "Thanks very much for the membership card and the news items. I was glad to receive both. I am interested in all the Alumni Assn. does. News from the Alumni is like a refreshing drink. Am here for post work for three or four months. I so wish to come over and pay a visit to my friends and see the White and Loma Linda again before returning to Persia, but I cannot. . . . Best wishes to teachers and friends."

Bernie Graybill, '24, can tell you why you shouldn't go 60 miles an hour in San Clemente, Calif.!

The Alumni Association would greatly appreciate some Christmas sponsorships!

If there is sufficient demand, the Alumni Assn. will publish diet lists to be sold to our doctors for their patients. If interested, kindly notify the office.

The November meeting of the Alumni Board was held at the cabin of Drs. Roger Barnes and Malcolm Hill at Snow Crest, above Camp Baldy, on Sunday, November 20. The wives and children of the Board members were present.

The Alumni Board extends to you the Season's Greetings!