

Helen
more love to you

Ginnygram .. to P.H. people and gas men everywhere ..

January, 1966

Happy New Year to the over a hundred of you and ever so much news to pass on to you, many of you parents, and now grandparents. My old friend, Dr. Paluel Flagg takes the cake with a list of 54 grandchildren! Any contenders? Three new trends appear, which I like .. there are more UN cards, more family newsletters and more photos. I like those school snapshots so common in Junior and High Schools.

There are no new marriages or births to report. I do not intend to report second marriages or divorces, of which there are several. Only one of our group has left us this year..Helena Bertel died on a train to Washington where she was to attend an anesthesia meeting. Also, Achsa Bean's mother, who I thought was indestructible, died at the Stimson-Bean establishment in Owl's Head, Maine, after only a few hours' illness.

Mobility is a characteristic of my friends, almost above the national average. Here are some of the movable people: Eva Kavan left the megalopolis of Los Angeles for France where she is studying neurophysiology. Don Richter of Saranac Lake, New York, writes that Cordt Rose and family have moved to Bloomsburg, Pa. Mildred Thompson Bohne and family have moved to an old "Dutch" farmhouse in Newmanstown, Pa. Bill Rotton and wife Peggy (Shaw) have moved into an 1790 farmhouse near Utica, New York, address unknown. Ada Mutch has built a new home right near Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia, where she is Director of Nursing. Graham Ronan has moved to Watertown, New York. Connie Berrien Schleindl, husband Matt and Matty are now in Richmond, Va. That superscheduler in the operating room, Aline Wildrick has become a Jerseyite. Welcome! Al Safian hasn't moved his home, but his base of operations to Elmhurst (L.I.) General Hospital with Lief, Adelman and Bien.

The list of your children in college is by no means complete, but an honest effort: Bill and Nancy Bohne are in college; Kingsley Bishop's son King is on his way to a Ph.D. at the University of Southern Florida and daughter Amy is at Tusculum College; Rick Gladstone graduated from Dartmouth and took extra courses at Boston University on his way to Medical School. Sam Rochberg's son has finished Princeton and is now a student at Harvard Graduate School. Daughter Diana is at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa. Dunc Holaday, Jr., is at Wesleyan, Phyllis is working at the University of Chicago, Susan is a senior in Music. Arthur Hartley's daughter Nancy is at Beaver College in Jenkintown, Pa.

On the fetal front, Alice Goodfellow Hodges is expecting a second baby in April.

Today I spent at P.H. on business and had a frightful time remembering names. Was pleased to find that Stan Bysshe and Harold Speert have daughters at Mt. Holyoke. June Morishima and husband Karry are going with Mel Grumbach to the University of California in San Francisco. Stan James showed me all around the new quarters in the Black Research Building; they expect their first pregnant sheep tomorrow - will put indwelling catheters into the fetus and measure everything. Hope they have some Chanel numero cinque nearby.

Both Kingsley Bishop and Dottie Darling have spent much of 1965 being sick, but both seem on the way to recovery. Thank goodness. Dottie Ma's daughter is doing well, working in a sheltered workshop. Les Mark is editing "Clinical Anesthesia Conferences" while Muriel works at the Salvation Army Wayside Home School for Girls. Dick Weiss and Co. have bought a peach orchard. Just write him for all the peaches you want. George Herbert's two boys are now hunters and fishermen while Pa is busy in Little League Baseball. Anita Holaday actually wrote me two whole pages about their family. George Moonie and family ski the Canadian Rockies regularly. Marvella Vanney Koury writes of her five children, from 4 to 14 years old. Helene Mayer works on a Narcotics Subcommittee in her spare time. Fred Hehre's family are all sailors.

Non P.H. anesthesia friends remain loyal beyond the call of duty. Ruth Martin in Gainesville, Florida has a son at Yale on his way to medical school. Mary Burnell of Adelaide, Australia writes of their Anesthesia Society, of which Gretta McClelland has been president this year. We hope Gretta will flit through the U.S.A. next August. Also, P.H. resident, Tone Dahl Kvittingen of Trondheim, Norway hopes to spend several weeks here in 1966. Dona Huggins and Marjorie Bennett of Winnipeg have just been down for the NYSSA meetings and report that Chris Wolkenstein is thriving. We extend sympathy to Dona on the loss of her mother last Christmas. Had an interesting lunch with Ernst and Ann Henschel in Milwaukee recently. They could use some anesthetic assistance there, and soon. Address Building 16, Veterans Administration Center, Wood, Wisconsin 53193. Hilda Roberts writes from Toronto that really she is an anesthetist, not a pediatrician. But I think every pediatric anesthetist must be quite a good pediatrician too. Her "boss," Ellen Blatchford, and husband travelled nearer home this year, with the Caribbean their farthest point. Margot Goldsmith has had a busy year in "retirement" in Edinburgh. Dr. de Zwaan is holding the anesthesia front in The Netherlands.

New York City looked remarkably beautiful on a moonlit night in November when the lights went out. Lila Gairns Chen writes that her husband spent the night in Penn Station. I had just left work and managed to drive home in 4½ hours. The diesel generator at P.H. came on in 3 minutes and the steam one in 8. No problems.

I've been busy as a bee. Not too many trips, 32, for about 86,700 miles. One swiftie took me to Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong for two weeks in July, to speak in Kyoto and Taipei. Had the great pleasure of being entertained by Harold Wang in Taipei and also of seeing Shih Hsun Ngai there, who was a visiting professor. Also visited two former Mt. Holyoke classmates, one a physician and a Maryknoll nun in Changhua, Taiwan, and the other the wife of a leading banker in Tokyo. And how, is woman's place in the home! In Hong Kong, Ken Hui, former surgical resident at P.H. put out the red carpet for me even though he was leaving for Europe only a few hours after I arrived. It was a fascinating trip, but don't go to the Orient in July.

After six years away from academic medicine, I missed medical students and a good library... so set my sights on Cornell Medical College, which is the most active of the eight medical schools in the New York City area in subjects related to birth defects. Wally McCrory, Professor of Pediatrics at Cornell, very kindly bought my sales pitch about the teaching of teratology and appointed me as a Lecturer in Pediatrics (Teratology) on July 1. I have six lectures to give the third-year class, and attend the Birth Defects Clinic weekly. Mt. Holyoke saw fit to award three women M.D. alumnae a Sc.D. degree in November and I was somehow one of them.

Mother is a healthy 92½ and thanks you for your good wishes, as do I. Appended is a list of changed addresses and new additions to this roster. If you wish the address of any P.H. former anesthesia resident, Viola or I will try to supply it.

Have finished making a cello and have had one lesson. Have started instrument #4, a mezzo-violin.

Can't refrain from telling you a little story .. a couple of years ago someone said, I hear you were just visiting Boston. I replied that I hadn't been there for two years. Then he said that he had heard me being paged in Boston Lying-in Hospital. The next time I saw a doc from that hospital I asked him about it and he said that because there were some 30 part-time pediatricians on the newborn baby study, they never knew who was on duty, so they just paged me! The last straw is, that my good neighbor, Lee Frank, passed on to me a memo from the Maryville Community Hospital in Phoenix. The first order of business of the Executive Committee was that if there was an emergency in the delivery room, they were to page "Dr. Apgar." Ha. I also feel posthumous from being in the latest edition of Dorland's Dictionary, where one is usually dead before entering it - and the very last straw is that the scoring system is often spelled with a little a. 😊

Am looking forward to Frank Moya's postgraduate seminar this month, and next month many of us in Aqualumni (Dr. Waters' alumni, if you've forgotten your Latin) hope to have breakfast with him and his wife in late February. He has done more for M.D. anesthesia than anyone on earth.

Best wishes for superlative anesthesia for your patients - The March of Dimes gives you maximal returns for your voluntary health dollars (plug!) - and a Happy New Year to you all.

With much love,

Virginia