

"Given this particular situation, this young human being was able to die with dignity, acknowledging and expressing his need to have a friend remain with him and yet going, as every man and woman must finally, to his death, alone. The act of dying is itself inescapably a lonely one, at least as far as we human beings can tell. But whatever dignity, peace, and comfort may be possible should be offered by whatever human love is available; and should not, incidentally, be compromised by too much peripheral and purely technically activity. There are many things that people sometimes feel they can or should do for a dying man. But unless these things add to the dying person's comfort, or at least do not detract from his peace and dignity and his capacity to communicate whatever he wants to say while he still has breath left to say it, they are not important. *Drips, catheters, changing one tube for another, all these things must take second place to treating the human being as somebody who is about to take the last and most significant journey of all; and who can pause long enough to say farewell to those he leaves behind and to hear them say a farewell to him.*"

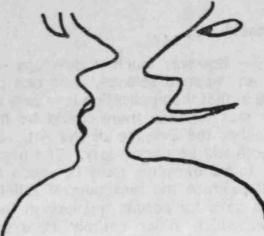
Let us go further to review V. E. Frankl's words: "When the surgeon has completed an amputation, he takes off his rubber gloves and appears to have done his duty as a physician. But if the patient then commits suicide because he cannot bear living as a cripple — of what use has the surgical therapy been? Is it not also part of the physician's work to do something about the patient's attitude toward the pain of surgery or the handicap that results from it? Is it not the physician's right and duty to treat the patient's attitude toward his illness — an attitude which constitutes a philosophy of life, though this may not be formulated in so many words? Where actual surgery comes to an end, the work of medical ministry begins." (V. E. Frankl: *The Doctor and the Soul*, 1965)

### "The esteem of your colleagues and the affection of your patients . . . ."

To close the subject, it cannot be better to recite Sir Robert Hutchison words in 'To match the man, B. M. J., 1941', which ran as follows:

"Let me advise you not to aim too high. The big prizes in our profession are only for the few, and they do not always bring much happiness when gained. 'Seest thou great things?' 'Seek them not,' as the wise man said. If you have earned enough for your needs and been able to put a little aside for your old age, and if, at the same time, you have won the esteem of your colleagues and the affection of your patients, you have done well enough, and the measure of success should be within the reach of most of you."

MEDICINE  
IS A  
LIVING  
SCIENCE . . . .  
BUT  
PERHAPS  
A DYING  
ART ?



*"If a drug could be produced that had the anti-asthmatic properties of steroids without their side effects, the trials and tribulations of asthmatic patients would be at an end."*

*Lancet* (1966) 2, 1354.

### steroid control without steroid side effects

Extensive clinical trials of Becotide Inhaler have shown that it gives effective control of asthmatic symptoms in patients who are no longer obtaining adequate relief from bronchodilators or sodium cromoglicate.

In addition it has been shown that Becotide Inhaler therapy can be used successfully to replace systemic steroids even in asthmatic patients who have become steroid dependent.

In a double-blind controlled trial involving asthmatic patients, Becotide Inhaler provided control which was at least as effective as that obtained from oral prednisolone; the only significant difference was that plasma cortisol levels were not depressed with Becotide Inhaler therapy.

(*Brit. med. J.*, 1972, 3, 314)

#### IMPORTANT

Clinical trials have highlighted the need to pay particular attention to the selection and clinical management of patients.

It is also important that the patient uses Becotide Inhaler correctly and regularly and that it is not confused with bronchodilator aerosols.

Becotide Inhaler ensures for your asthmatic patients:

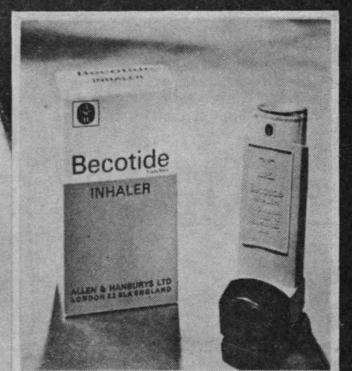
□ An effective treatment controlling the three main pathological processes involved in asthma — bronchospasm, oedema of bronchial mucosa, and hypersecretion of mucus.

□ Freedom from steroid side effects including adrenal suppression.

□ A fuller and less restricted life as the advantages of steroid therapy can be introduced at an earlier stage of the disease.

#### PRESENTATION

Becotide Inhaler is a metered aerosol which delivers 50 microg. beclomethasone dipropionate BP per inhalation. Each container of Becotide Inhaler provides 200 inhalations.



### Becotide INHALER

puts steroid therapy  
in its place

For further information, available on request

**Glaxo**

Glaxo-Hanjin Kogyo Ltd.  
9/F, Fiverton Block, Chater's Estate, North Point, Hong Kong  
Telephone: 5-71141

Glaxo-Hanjin Kogyo Ltd., 100-102 Gloucester Rd, London E2 6LA

### Homeward Bound . . . .

#### The Child of Hong Kong . . . .

Hong Kong . . . . the Pearl of the East . . . . Shoppers' Paradise . . . .

Borrowed culture, borrowed time . . . .

She, born here, and has lived here all her life.

Child born in exile. Never has she seen the land of her ancestors. Only from novels and poetry has she come to know vaguely the glory of its mountains and the splendour of its valleys . . . . the long, long years of civil strife and national wars . . . .

Eventually she comes of age . . . . amidst . . . .

. . . . nibblings at a narrow intellectualism . . . . Shakespeare, Sartre, Shaw, Fromm, and T.S. Eliot . . . .

. . . . imported movies and foreign films . . . . Sean Connery, Charles Bronson, Peter O'Toole, and Elizabeth Taylor . . . .

. . . . borrowed music, beat and rhythm . . . . Jazz, rock, pop, folk, Beatles, Rolling Stones, Bee Gees, and Joan Baez . . . .

. . . . spiritual gropings . . . . the worship of a perfect deity, the belief in the appallingly sinful nature of man, the talk of faith, hope and charity, the promise of a place in heaven . . . . metaphysics and superstitions of men of the past . . . .

. . . . the imitation of living . . . . lipstick and perfume, high heels and seen-throughs, dates and romances, night-clubs and restaurants, drinking and late evenings. A Rebecca Sharp in *Vanity Fair* . . . .

. . . . And English, . . . . yes, English. As a child, she remembered being fined in school for speaking Cantonese. Now, even in her dreams, she would rattle off the more acceptable language . . . . and when drunk, would swear . . . . even in English.

This island, they said, is her home. Yet, she knows, they, like everybody here, are people uprooted, living from moment to moment . . . . with very little of a pallid past and less still of an uncertain future.

Between a birth and a death, vainly attempts to seek the dream of personal happiness . . . . pursues the myth that is the sanctification of the individual . . . . or obsessed oneself with the accumulation of knowledge or fortune that nobody else can use . . . . or chained perennially to the emulative chase that is the prevailing pattern of mass perversity . . . .

Somehow, she becomes weary of this boisterous circus show around her. Weary, weary, weary of the joyless days, the dolorous uncreativity.

And in the shadows, hark! a call from the distant, fresh, soft, gentle, ethereal, yet unmistakably the blood-stirring call of the land she has never seen.

"Go back!" resounded echoes from her heart and soul . . . . and the cry maulled her into pieces.

"Return, ye child born in exile!"



#### The Dream of China . . . .

"And from this chasm, with ceaseless turmoil seething,

As if this earth in fast thick pants were breathing,

*A mighty fountain momently was forced;  
Amid whose swift half-intermittent burst  
Huge fragments vaulted like rebounding  
hail,*

*Or chaffy grain beneath the thresher's  
flail:*

*And' mid these dancing rocks at once  
and ever*

*It flung up momently the sacred river."*

Coleridge's Kubla Khan

In a dream, on a desolate wintry night, she dreamt she was sailing back to China, and home, for good.

In the mist, from the boat, she saw the shimmering ancient mountains, heard the

whispering of the primeval forests, smelt the fragrance of the soil, felt the warm caresses of breeze blowing over the dark rolling river, tousling up her hair....

And she had yearned desperately to get on shore, to kneel, touch and kiss that golden soil of her forefathers....to roll and dance in the brambly meadows and glittering fields....

But in the mist and in the shadows of her dream, the brimming river silently and forcefully bore her on. She stretched out her hand....but could never reach the land she loved.... In a brooding stillness, the surging tide took her back to the reality of the cold dawn....

She who never shed a tear, awoke to find her pillow wet....and there were a pain and an ache at the depth of her soul to return.

To return....to return....

**Homeward Bound....**

Cross the border. No more a dream. The train would take her home. Brave, new world. The simplicity of life. And she bore witness to the rebirth of a nation.

Her joyous baptism into the new creed of socialism. Public ownership of all means of production. Respect for the working man. A classless society. Her new-found nationalism and a belief in internationalism. A sense of larger things and greater struggles. A perspective of history. Revolutionary ideals....heralded by songs, rhythm and the new beat of the New China.

Reluctantly, reluctantly, the time came for her to return....humbler and quieter....fired with a different inspiration, nursing her new faith and hope.

She knows, the wind of change is howling through eternity....a new song has cleaved to her mouth....and the day of retribution will come....

by A. B. C.

# IN & ABOUT

## Anticancer Exhibition...

Sponsored by the HKU Medical Society, was held on 19-20th September at Queen's College and on 22nd-23rd September at Queen Elizabeth School, with five local secondary schools participating in the venture. The exhibition whose organizing committee is chaired by Mr. Lau Chun-kuo, of the third year, represents the coordinated efforts of many throughout the summer vacations.

## The Season for Speeches... Orientation at Sassoon Road.

The annual orientation programme was organized by the fraternity committee to say welcome to the freshmen. The programme included a welcoming party, (speeches... speeches...), a picnic to Fanling, (more speeches...) and introductory lectures (...!), library tours, and old books sale.

As customary, several freshmen were assigned to a tutor, a senior student who would guide the freshmen in the choice of books and advise on other details of a medical student's routine.

Time to pass on personal prejudices or ancient bits of wisdom?

## Retreat of Libbers?

The incoming class of 150 for the first year M. B. B. S. features only 14 woman students, that is, less than 10% — in contrast to the classes of the two preceding years in which female medical students account for about 20%.

The triumph of man-power in 1973?

## Food! Food! Food!

The sky-rocketing food prices appear to precipitate crises everywhere in the Colony. Finding catering here unprofitable, our previous caterer fled and a new caterer offered us dishes at \$2.50 each, with self-service.

Recommendations, suggestions and complaints if any, concerning the Canteen, should be forwarded to the Vice-Chairman of the Medical Society, Mr. Lee Ka-yan.

## Faculty Review Committee

Mr. Cheng Chun-ho, Final Year, has been nominated by the Council to serve on the Faculty Review Committee.

## Inter-Year Swimming Gala...

...would be held on 3rd October, 1973, at 5.30 p.m.

...the making of a Mark Spitz?

## Arrival and Departure...

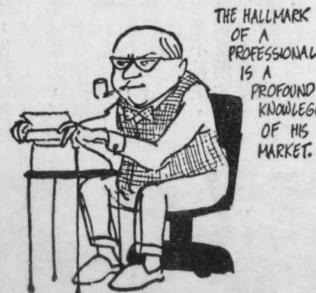
Professor T. C. Boyde, M. D., B. Sc., M. B. B. S., PH. D., arrived from the Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda to assume professorship of the Department of Biochemistry.

The Caduceus has had the opportunity to interview Professor Boyde and it is to be hoped that the contents of the interview would appear in the next issue.

Dr. C. W. Ogle of the Dept. of Pharmacology, and Vice-President of the Medical Society will be leaving for England on a study leave.

## Commercialization versus Nationalization...?

Should our medical service be nationalized and private practice be banned? — Editorial.



## ARMSA and IMFSA

The seventh General Assembly of the ARMSA (Asian Regional Medical Students' Association) and the twenty-second General Assembly of the IMFSA (International Medical Federation of Students' Association) have been held in India and Singapore respectively.

Representing the Hong Kong Medical Society for the first time in IMFSA General Assembly in Singapore (first ever general assembly of the IMFSA held in Asia), are Mr. Lee Ka-yan, Mr. Kenneth Lee, Mr. Peter Choi, and Mr. Lo Hong-Yuen.

Finally representing the Medical Society in India is Miss Betty Ng. The other delegate elected, Mr. Kenneth Lee, was unable to make it at the last moment because of a visa problem.

Hong Kong has been elected at the ARMSA VIII General Assembly Director of SCOPE (Standing Committee on Professional Exchange).

The respective reports of the proceedings of these meetings would hopefully be published in a special issue together with the Caduceus in October.

The Medical Society wishes to acknowledge the following for their generous support in financing the delegations, without which, the participation in these Assemblies would not have been possible:—

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The Editorial Board wishes to thank the special support of the Glaxo Lab. Ltd.

The Editorial Board wishes to acknowledge donations from Professor M. B. Roberts, Dr. J. C. Hwang and Dr. K. C. Lam and to thank them for their generous support.

