

Letters To The Editor

February 26, 1963.

Editor-in-Chief,
Dalhousie Medical Journal:

Congratulations on the very good issue of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* for the Winter of 1963. I enjoyed the articles, the editorials and correspondence, but apart from the editor, where were the students? Of the five original articles, four were written by staff members and the other by the editor himself. I have heard Dalhousie students present excellent clinical reports, reviews and, in some instances, reports of original work.

If you have the talents, why bury them? Get behind the editor!

Incidentally, the suggestion about a ten dollar fee for the privilege of applying for admission to Dalhousie Medical School has already been put into effect. At least it has been approved by the University Administration and will go into effect next year. However, I hope that we will not have to depend solely upon this small amount for an increase in our scholarship funds. Much better news on this subject may be available to the readers of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* very shortly.

Yours sincerely,
C. B. Stewart, M.D.,
Dean, Dalhousie Medical School.

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ROBERT F. DAILY
General Manager



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February 5, 1963.

Editor-in-Chief,
Dalhousie Medical Journal:

The editorial in the Winter issue of the *Journal* entitled TEN DOLLARS presents an interesting method of obtaining money. The lack of scholarship funds for medical students was the topic of a lead editorial in the Winter issue of the *Journal* last year. To point out the magnitude of this problem the editor drew a comparison with Dalhousie law students. He said: "With only three years of professional schooling, no instruments to purchase, fewer textbooks to buy, less tuition to pay, and almost an additional month to work during the summer, the law students have approximately \$40,000.00 worth of bursaries, prizes and scholarships from which to draw each year. The medical students, on the other hand, have but \$6,000.00 from which they may draw over a period of five years (if they happen to be among the top three or four in the class)." In a letter to the editor in the Spring issue of the *Journal* last year, our Dean, Dr. C. B. Stewart wrote: "There is no doubt that scholarship support is very inadequate in the Medical School compared with some of the other faculties of the University", showing that the administration is aware of this lack. There is no doubt that the complaint is valid.

Your plan of charging ten dollars as an application fee, investing this money and using the interest for scholarships is good, but it does not go far enough. You stated that after ten years, \$1,800.00 would be available; however you neglected to mention at the same time there would be \$30,000.00 in the bank that would not be available. Since it would take twenty years for the interest on these savings to equal the yearly income I would like to recommend that the annual income of \$3,000.00 be doled out to deserving, needy students each year.

I am sure that the first criticism of this idea is that it does not consider the future. What happens if we do not get as many applicants one year as we expect? This is a valid argument, however this problem may easily be solved if the type of scholarship established is a loan scholarship. Whatever amount a student has borrowed he must pay back, without any interest charge, within five years after graduation. Even those students who go on to post-graduate training will be in a position to repay this debt and after this program is underway for five years, the amount of money available will steadily increase, ad infinitum.

Congratulations on your stimulating editorials and your interesting *Journal*.

Yours very truly,
Paul Matusow '64.

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