

Medical Summer School In Denmark

AL FELIX, '67

The thirteenth Medical Summer School for English speaking students was held from August 10-30 last year in Denmark. This course is organized by the International Medical Cooperation Committee and is under the sponsorship of the International Federation of Medical Students Association.

The school is organized into a preclinical course at the University of Aarhus and a clinical course at the Copenhagen County Hospitals. I had the worthwhile experience of participating in the preclinical section of this course.

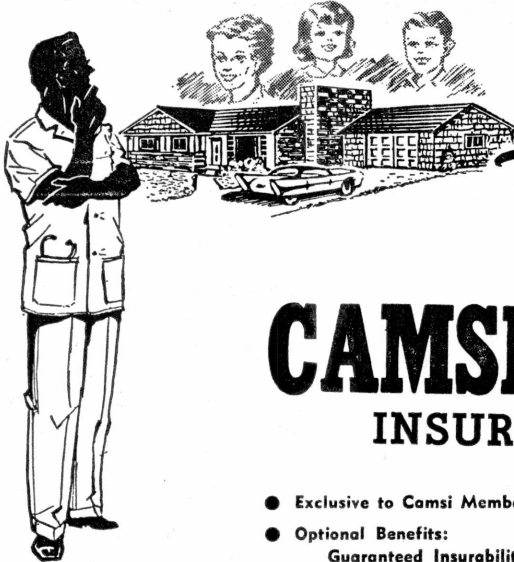
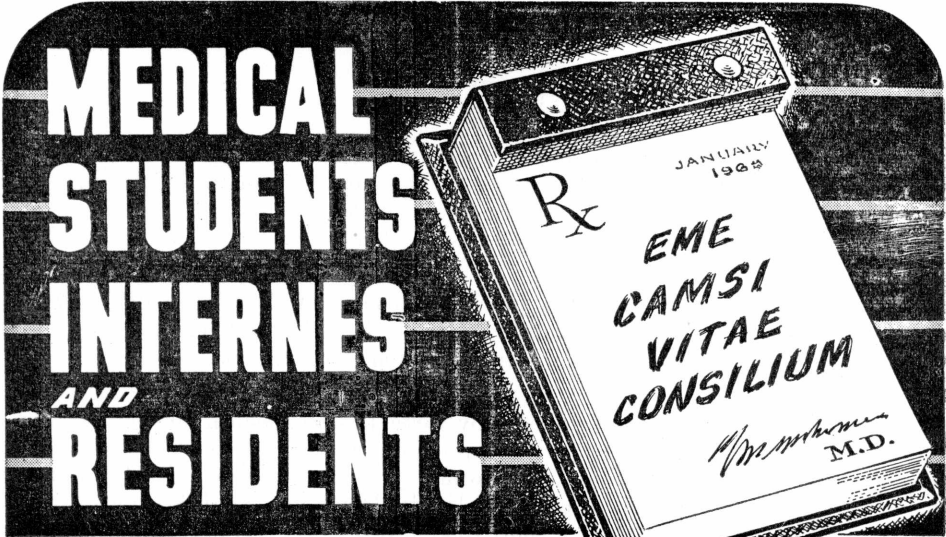
The preclinical course was planned by three Danish medical students who presented us with the academic and social aspects of the medical students in Denmark, the latter of which was certainly an important part of the course. The opportunity to make friends with Danish, Swedish, Icelandic, Dutch and English students and to enjoy the Danish way of life for a short time gave us an experience which certainly matured our attitudes towards people of other nationalities.

The University of Aarhus has a much more beautiful campus than any University I have seen in Canada and the life of the Danish medical student is blended with this setting. He leads a very relaxed life with exams only at the end of the fourth preclinical and fourth clinical years of study. The Danish medical graduate compares very well with those of Canada and the hospital facilities available to him are of a very high standard.

For the first two weeks we attended lectures each morning from nine until one o'clock. These lectures gave us a good comparison between Danish teaching facilities and our own. Their lecture rooms are of the ultra-modern variety and the excellent command of the English language by all Danish medical people was, indeed, very impressive. This is in part due to the fact that they use many English textbooks in their courses. In the afternoons we were taken on guided tours of Danish medical institutions all over the country and these gave us a very comprehensive view of the Danish medical services, which are equal to, if not better than our own. The evenings' entertainment was generally left to our own discretion; however, student parties with titles such as "Umbilicus" seemed remarkably inviting. Visits to the local breweries and "Lemonade" parties were also obvious attractions. We still found time for dancing in the local night spots and getting an ample glimpse at the renowned beauty assembled therein.

The weekends were spent on excursions to Copenhagen and Malmo in southern Sweden. The final week of the course was spent at a summer resort near Skive, where we were given sufficient time to rest from our "hard work".

Many rewarding experiences were left behind in Denmark and for anyone travelling to Europe this summer I would highly recommend this course. It is a fine opportunity to see medicine in another country and exchange ideas with foreign students. All in all, an exciting glimpse into Medicine in Denmark.



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