The CSA Committee on the History of Anesthesia welcomes submissions from California residents, fellows, and medical students for the inaugural year of the History of Anesthesia in California Essay Contest. Essays should be less than 1000 words and use no more than five references. They will be judged in a blinded manner by the CSA history committee on the following criteria: content, style, organization, accuracy, and formatting.

The winner of the contest will receive a CSA Foundation for Education prize of $1000, the honor of presenting during an Oral Abstract session of the 2020 CSA Annual Meeting (April 2-5 in San Diego), complimentary conference registration, and up to $500 for travel.

After receiving feedback from the CSA history committee, the winner will submit the essay to the Chair of the CSA Committee on Professional and Public Communication for potential publication in CSA Online First or Vital Times. Selected runners-up may also be invited to submit their manuscripts for publication.

**Topic:** Please choose a topic that is related to one of the following.
- The history of your academic department of anesthesiology.
- A notable achievement by a California anesthesiologist. Topics from the CSA History of Anesthesia Timeline (http://csahq.org/about-us/history-of-anesthesia) are welcome.
- A historical event or theme that significantly involved or affected anesthesiologists in California.
- An amplification of a theme from one of the enclosed historical documents by Arthur E. Guedel, M.D. (1883-1956), a California-based pioneer of American anesthesiology.

**Length and Format:**
- < 1000 words, excluding references.
- A title is required.
- Microsoft Word, Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, 1-inch margins.
- Please insert page numbers.

**References:**
- ≤ 5 references.
- Please format references according to the *AMA Manual of Style*.

**Identification:** Please include the following information.
- The first author’s e-mail address and mailing address.
- The academic affiliations and titles of all authors.
- All identifying information will be hidden for judging.

Please send entries to anes.history.CA@gmail.com by 12:00 p.m. (PST) on February 1, 2020.

Questions are welcome and may be directed to:
Merlin D. Larson, M.D. (Merlin.Larson@ucsf.edu) or
Jane S. Moon, M.D. (JSMoon@mednet.ucla.edu)
Miscellaneous.

YOUR DUTY AS AN ANESTHETIST.

THE CHARACTER OF YOUR WORK.

FOR WHAT ARE YOU WORKING? Wealth? Honor? Glory? Contentment? OBITUARY (Contentment & Laziness separated by only a thin line.) or just for the joy that one gets when he drops a coin into the blind man's cup.

Self confidence & Ignorance a bad combination.

TEACHING OF ANESTHESIA THEN AND NOW.
Modern medical schools & detail histological studies as compared with the Clinical teaching of the old days. MUST GET THEM TOGETHER.

## How do you know when things are not going right???

A speech impediment is not noticed if the **speaker** says something valuable.
(If you are helping no one by talking, don't talk. If you are hurting someone, without worthy benefit or protection to others, don't talk.

Old days, SPECIALTY selected the MAN. Now, MAN selects SPECIALTY.

Proprieties - **Decorum**

(underlined)
Dear Ralph:-

Listen to this.

It was my first case at St. Vincents Hospital, the young wife of one of our (Los Angeles) best X Ray men, the mother of a nine year old boy, and apparently in perfect condition in all ways. It was my first case for this surgeon. She died within three minutes after the anesthesia was started, and before the operation was begun. I dont know what happened. Usual N20 filter induction, followed by ethylene. Some cyanosis, and I felt the pulse to be indefinite. Seemed feeble but still passable. As cyanosis increased I inflated with Oxygen. No pink. More Oxygen. No pink. No Pulse. I put a catheter into her larynx, or rather had a Nose and throater do it, and conducted artificial respiration by inhaling my own lungs full of oxygen and blowing it into her lungs through the catheter. I dont know and you dont know. After all medicine some times seems damned futile.

Hope you have a good time. Tell Schmidt, that I thought he had returned to Germany, and I sent the outline he requested, to his address at Hamburg.

The doctor whose wife I let die was present during the whole procedure.

Art.

What are you doing in Boston?
August 1, 1929

Dear Ralph:

Long time no write! Been so long since I have written that I have forgotten the recess in our arguments. Where were we?

By this time you are probably back among the working men and happier for it. Me? I am a working man. Have been actually earning a living the past two months. Hope it keeps up. Did a spinal on Hutchinson—my chief anesthetic competitor and an O.K. fellow—and of course it went wrong. My part of it DID NOT GO WRONG. For an appendix for an unknown surgeon, I went higher than usual and a good thing I did. His incision extended two inches above the umbilicus. The spinal lasted a full hour which is as long as any respectable spinal should last, but the surgeon was not yet through. Still breaking up congenital intestinal bands. Finally I had to give Hutch everything in the surgery to get the peritoneum closed. Hell!

Have been doing combined spinal and Sodium Amytal. Laps mostly. Cases now number eighteen. All successful where my technique was not faulty. Undersized—several with Amytal. Awake on table not too troublesome. Some beautiful and with longer spinals. Not that the actual spinal is longer but the patient being asleep does not become mentally tired and does not appreciate the smaller unpleasant sensations of a waning spinal. I am sure that it will have a place after we learn how to do it. Am going to make a preliminary report of the thing with the twenty fifth case. Sure that is not enough but I have to hurry. However Lincoln Sise is ahead of us with that combination.

I have some Avertin, I believe I will wait until I get through with the Amytal before using it. Also I should know a lot more about Avertin before I use it. Had a prospect look at the house today. You never can tell. Would like to visit you.

What dosage of Novocain are you using for your spinals? Do you use Pitkin at all? I have a Tiltometer that I will sell you for half price. One fourth price!

Chauncey Leake talked to a San Francisco reporter about the CP2 stimulation and I have been having a heck of a time dodging reporters here ever since.

Did Ike get the instructions re the catheter cuff? And has he made any cuffs? And how? I am having better and better success with the closed endotracheal day by day. Am succeeding in getting some of the Nose and Throaters to use it in adult general tonsils.

Carbon dioxide is DYNAMITE. Even though I was watching for it, the other day, I had a total respiratory depression while trying to push in ether. I'm growing mighty careful in my use of carbon dioxide. Are you still doing the catatonic delirium with it? If so tell me what is new.
Try Sodium Amytal and Spinal or Avertin and spinal if you like the avertin better. The sodium Amytal is handier to manipulate. My tremor getting better. I believe it is simple hysteria. I quit drinking coffee, and cut way down on the cigarettes and it got no better. Finally got disgusted and then after starting the aforesaid dissipations again, I got a couple of hurry calls, one for a spinal and one for an endo tracheal. Did not have time to shake and did not shake. Plain hysteria and nothing else. My motto is now "Shake if you want to shake." Am shaking less or not at all. How's that?

Your girl wrote me for a reprint of the revised "Third Stage Ether Stuff". I did not buy any of those reprints. And I have only one copy of the journal that carried the story. Have her write McMechan for a copy of the journal. Am not sending you mine now because your girl states that she wanted it for your file and I assume that there is no hurry. However if you want to borrow it write and I will send it on.

My dog has the mange and so has the new back yard. Ruddell went straight home from the Mayo's and went to work.

Saw your young friend - forget his name but the student from your school about whom you wrote me - and was not able to help him. He wanted a job at anything and I did not have anything to do. However he is a nice kid and I might see him again. He has a standing invitation to visit. One of my competitors here bought a Foregger Midgett. Three have bought Waters filters but none of them have been used.

Can't write more because there is nothing to argue about. Carbon dioxide is a stimulant, but it has a terrific reverse kick at the end. I am threatening now to write my Coronado paper on Water's CO2 Absorption for publication.

Hope you found Airway. Why not advertise amongst the rabbits?

Regards to the family and I hope they had as good a vacation as you had.

Art.