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THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

Edited by THEODORE DAVIS ADLERMAN, M.D.
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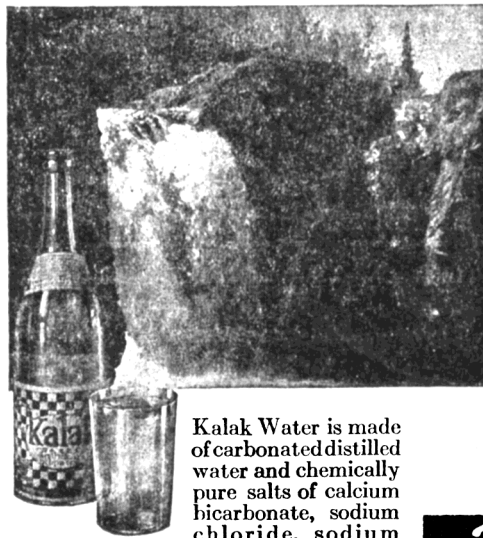
A journal of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery, comprising the proceedings,
papers and discussions of the Association and published in the interests
of the Eclectic System of Medicine.

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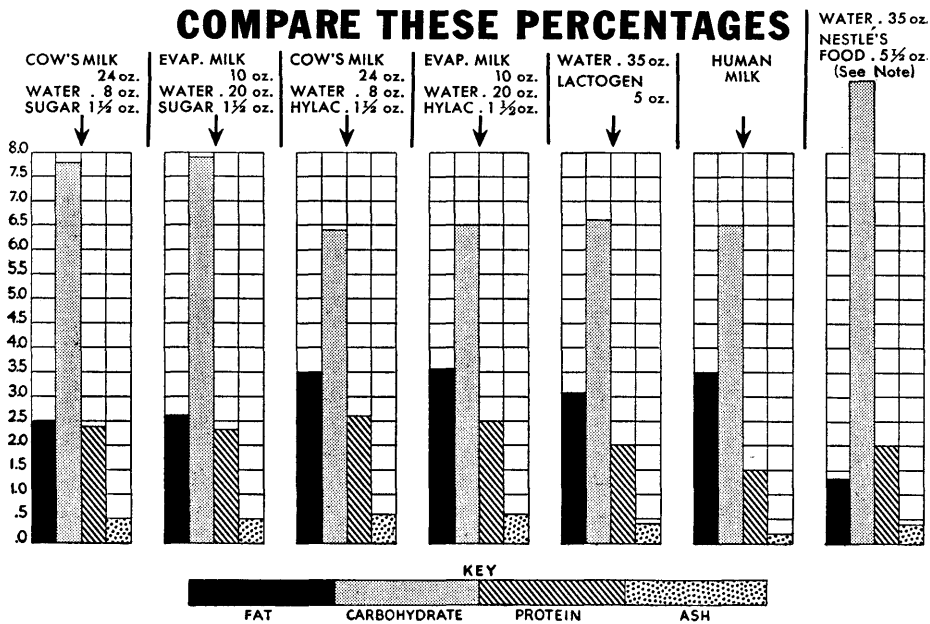


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The National Eclectic Medical Association
Quarterly
September, 1934 Volume 26, Number 1

Selected Articles and Editorials

EBEN B. SHEWMAN, M.D.

Eben B. Shewman, M.D., born March 14, 1876, Richmond, Indiana. Student National Normal University, Lebanon, Ohio. Graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute 1898. Post-graduate work, Illinois Post-graduate, 1908. Also entered the anatomical department of the University of Illinois. An assistant demonstrator anatomy, medical department of the University of Illinois. Post-graduate work, Edinburgh, London, Berlin and Vienna. Professor of Surgery of the Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio, since 1910. Member of the Senior Staff of Bethesda Hospital. Member of the Board of Trustees and Dean of the Eclectic Medical College since 1933. Married Sophronia L. Tobrocke, Waymansville, Indiana, August 7, 1901. Children: Elsie Louise, Evelyn Agnes, Lela Sophronia, Eben Franklin, and Marjorie Alice.

1

1 Dr. Shewman, President-Elect of the N.E.M.A., had just been appointed Dean of E.M.C. in a last-ditch attempt, along with Dr. Nellens, to re-organize and strengthen the single remaining private medical college in the United States (the final end-game of the Flexner Report's campaign to diminish the number of medical schools, and close the remaining private ones.). Two years later John Uri Lloyd died and his decades-long substantial financial support ceased. These two losses, amidst the Great Depression, sealed the school's fate. It closed in 1939.

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The Southwest School of Botanical Medicine <http://www.swsbm.com>

(excerpts)

THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Proceedings of the Sixty-fourth Annual Meeting, Book-Cadillac Hotel.
Detroit, Michigan, June 19-22, 1934

The Sixty-fourth Annual Convention of the National Eclectic Medical Association was held at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Mich., June 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1934.

The first session was called to order by the president. Dr. John C. Hubbard, of Oklahoma City, at 10 a. m., Tuesday, June 19.

THE PRESIDENT : I have the honor to call the sixty-fourth annual convention of the National Eclectic Medical Association to order and declare it in session.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

DR. LOWRY C. M. CONLEY: Mr. Chairman, Members of the National Eclectic Medical Association: In all your sojourning from state to state, I am sure you have never been more welcome than you are here today in Detroit. We are greatly inspired by your coming here at this time. To us you represent a ride to our destination, and I can promise you that we are going places with renewed vigor.

Members of the Michigan State Society: We hear considerable about the new deal. I am not sure whether it is Franklin D. Roosevelt's or Dr. Hubbard's, but I rather believe it is Dr. Hubbard's elaboration of the former. Whatever it may be, it has certainly enthused me more than anything that has happened in our society since I have been in Michigan. I will try very hard to impart some of that enthusiasm to you.

Who more than I can appreciate your being here? I am the only Eclectic in the state of Michigan who has attended every state meeting that has been held for the past twenty years. I will always be there as long as I am able to travel, because I consider it a duty to the Eclectic cause. I can not help wondering, as I sit in our meetings with Drs. Wagner, Pangburn and Deffenbaugh, if some of you members, and those of you who should be members, have not forgotten your alma mater. To her

you owe your very professional existence. One day each year is all too little to ask of you. Your own appreciation of whatever you have accomplished in a professional way should cause you to offer more than Eclecticism will ever ask of you.

This is in no sense a criticism. I have treated the national (for which I apologize) as you have treated your state meetings. Never until this year have they sold me on my duties to the national, and I in turn have not sold you on your duties to your state meetings. It is certainly time some salesmanship was initiated into the old regime. Only with your assistance can it be successful.

Ladies of the Women's Auxiliary: There are no words of welcome which would exactly explain our appreciation for the work you are doing. We will endeavor to do that with deeds. If you will turn to the last pages of the program you will find a list of the names of your officers and committees and a summary of your activities. We were not merely trying to be nice; we believe that you are entitled to something tangible for your labors.

When the good wife says, "Doctor, I had a nice time at the national in Detroit; we did some good missionary work; we must go to the national again next year," the doctor may make excuses about this or that, but you will both be there, and when you are, no one need fear for either the Eclectic school or the societies.

Our only hope is that your visit will be a very pleasant and profitable one and that you will want to come again.

THE PRESIDENT: The next speaker needs no introduction. He is one of the most honored members of our association, and will respond on behalf of the National Eclectic Medical Association. I have the honor to present Dr. C. W. Beaman of Cincinnati.

RESPONSE TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME

DR. C. W. BEAMAN (Cincinnati): Mr. President: The withdrawal² of Commissioner Wolff, the personal representative of Mayor Couzens, has sort of taken the point out of my remarks, and reverses a little bit my responses.

² The mayor didn't come, the Commissioner had to leave early...pointed disrespect to the oldest—but fading—medical organization in the U.S.

First, I will respond to the state of Michigan. Our president called attention to the fact that it is an old social custom to be welcomed by the mayor of the community, and by the organizations which play host, and in deference to the mayor my remarks should have been addressed to his representative, but as it is they will have to be delivered in absentia, so to speak.

Dr. Conley, we appreciate the welcome you have extended from the small organization, the group of men and women of our section of medicine in the state of Michigan. I am sure we will enjoy this meeting, and that we will take away from here many useful and helpful memories.

To His Honor, the mayor, I would say that we appreciate the gracious words of welcome of his personal representative. I was going to tell his representative that the city of Detroit has probably played host to many conventions, great and small, and as conventions go, numerically at least, our convention is not large. In fact, we would have had a much larger convention and many more of our members present if we had not bowed to circumstances and given way to an international organization which holds its convention next week. I refer to International Rotary. This change of program has affected everyone of us, even those who are here—probably many of you had to change your plans; but many could not change their plans and consequently could not be here. So it has made quite a difference. I want the mayor and the hotel authorities to understand that our number was necessarily made smaller by the action which was really forced upon us.

I was going to tell the mayor that even though we lack great numbers, that the representatives of this association here assembled represent some 5,000 or 6,000 men and women in the United States who practice and believe in the principles of Eclectic medicine, and that, conservatively, those 5,000 or 6,000 practitioners take care of the health of somewhere between *four and five millions of our people*. Therefore, the mere question of size should not be considered. We are an important unit in medicine in the United States today, and we have the temerity to believe that our section of medicine has had more to do with shaping the destiny of medicine in the United States than we are given credit for. However, if we have helped to shape the destiny of medicine in the United States, we do not care for any personal or group credit. That is,

that is not our foremost thought. When our conscience tells us that we have contributed something, that is its own reward.

Another thing that I would have told the mayor would be that this section of medicine sponsored the first national group of physicians in the United States. The first national organization of physicians was in the Eclectic section of medicine. Following that—I believe I am right—a little gap existed, and then this present organization, of which this is the sixty-fourth annual convention, was an outgrowth and continued. Following the first organization came the great American Medical Association, and the American Institute of Homeopathy, and these three organizations constitute what is known as “organized medicine” today. While these various sections may differ on several principles, I am sure that at heart they have one thing in common—to do all in their power to conserve the health and happiness of our people. I wish the mayor to know these things and I hope that in some way they may be transmitted to him.

I was going to call his attention to the fact that the name “Eclectic” means “to choose;” that we have made a choice, a discriminating choice, of this section of medicine. And I was going to tell the mayor that no matter whether some might take exception to our general wisdom in that choice, surely the city of Detroit could find no fault with the fact that we had chosen this city twice during our life, as our convention city. I trust the message will go to him that we are appreciative of his welcome and that we hope to take away with us very pleasant and happy memories of our stay in Detroit.

THE PRESIDENT : We will now have the roll-call of officers. *(omitted)*

REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

The association year just closed has been unusual in our history in several respects. Several years of economical experience such as few, if any, have encountered, have left their blight on the medical profession along with others. Fortunately for the people, the general health throughout the United States has been unusually good.

By increased efforts, your officers have endeavored to meet the tide of human affairs. The consummation of the reorganization and continuance of our mother school is being realized. The loyalty of our

membership has been severely tested, but has proven itself. We must carry on. Difficulties should only increase our determination.

(a) If progress means change, we must do our part in the restoration and continuation of progress. The world moves, and we must move forward with it. Backward or retreating steps must not be made.

(b) New remedies, new uses for old ones, with better understanding of their curative effects, must characterize our research. The world, especially the medical world, must not overlook the fact that Eclecticism consists in the careful selection and application of remedies to existing conditions in a given patient. Diagnosis is essential (as diagnosis develops remedies should suggest themselves), but diagnosis alone, or the naming of a disease, can not scientifically or empirically direct choice of remedy, since many varying conditions prevail in different patients who may be suffering from the same disease.

(c) We can not afford to aid in popularizing a remedy only to see it, and our honest efforts, compromised by cheap newspaper or radio advertising. No little advantage has been taken of the profession in this manner. We can not too roundly denounce such practices which in the name of medicine serve unscrupulous, unfair, and misleading advertising.

(c) In order to be respected, we must be respectable. This applies personally and collectively. We can hardly hope to rate others if our association condones or permits questionable methods. We are clean, or we are not clean. Our decisions must be in harmony with our laws and the best of established usages.

(d) Our expenditures this year have somewhat exceeded our income for the first time in twenty-eight years, chiefly due to the redoubled efforts to encourage and enlist the support of increased numbers, yet we would be open to severe criticism should we accept new blood which has not been proven compatible.

(f) The unfortunate change made in the dates fixed for our convention was due to conditions over which we had no control, and to this change no small amount of expense was attached, saying nothing of the extra work involved thereby, and doubtless substantial loss in attendance.

A list of collections and expenditures is submitted herewith for the use of the auditing committee.

(g) On account of the difficulties we have previously encountered, we trust that the committee on credentials will not report favorably upon any application for membership until the full record of the applicant is known.

(h) We now have a tentative list left over from last year on account of lack of information attending the applications, and because of the fact that, with one exception, none of the members of this list responded to our efforts to establish their worthiness, we must therefore recommend that the applications in this list be refused.

On account of the existing conditions, as above related, we offer the following standing resolution:

Whereas, The credentials committee has access to little or no data by which to judge the eligibility of applicants for membership;

Be It Resolved, That the committee on credentials, an annual committee, shall consist of five members, two of which shall be the secretaries of the National Eclectic Medical Association, and no two of which shall reside in any one state, to act on applications for membership and reinstatements. Said committee shall reserve the right to make final report at the next annual meeting following the year of application.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) WM. P. BEST, Rec. Secy, N. E. M. A.

(This report was referred to the House of Delegates.)

THE PRESIDENT : We will now hear the report of the corresponding secretary, Dr. Adlerman.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF QUARTERLY

To the Officers and Members of the National Eclectic Medical Association:

In presenting my tenth annual report as editor of the QUARTERLY, I do not think it will be out of order to bring to your attention some of the

problems which confronted us in the editorial offices during this last year.

Many, if not all, of the national advertisers were operating this last year under advertising budgets made for periods of from one to six months, while many others suppressed their advertising contracts altogether. No contracts were given for the usual year's time.

Some few of the houses which have arranged for a year's advertising business soon changed their budgets, with a corresponding loss of business by nearly all medical publications.

Of 263 advertising houses replying to a questionnaire as to the size of their advertising appropriations for 1933-34, in comparison with last year's quota, 20 stated that they expected to spend more, 191 expected to spend very much less, and the others were not certain if they were going to advertise at all.

To say that we were panic-stricken more than once, does not express it. It required a great deal of labor to obtain the advertising which we are entitled to as a school of medicine.

According to an official statement made by a well-known publishing house, many medical journals would have gone under if it had not been for additional fees received from members.

With all of the above-mentioned difficulties, and with increased cost of paper, illustrations, cover and labor, it is not without pride that I am bringing to your attention the fact that this year we are turning into the treasury a greater amount than last year, with all bills paid.

T.D. ADLERMAN, A.B., M.D. Editor-Manager

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT: At this time I have the extreme honor of introducing to you the president of the American Institute of Homeopathy, Dr. Boericke of Philadelphia.

DR. GARTH BOERICKE (Philadelphia): Mr. Chairman and Members of the National Association: We feel very friendly towards the Eclectic

Medical Association. I always tell my students that we have very little to crow about in regard to the various drugs and preparations which we use and lecture on. I teach in the Hahnemann Medical College at Philadelphia. So often we come across an ordinary medical man (I always refer to men of other beliefs as ordinary medical men, thereby inferring that we are extraordinary medical men) who accepts drugs and uses them without giving us credit for them. The two best drugs in materia medica have been lifted bodily from the Eclectic school, and we freely acknowledge it. So we have the highest respect for the Eclectic method.

I simply came down to pay my respects as president of a sister medical organization, and also to offer an invitation to join us in our public health mass meeting at 8:00 o'clock tonight at the Hotel Statler. Senator Copeland of New York will be there and altogether quite a galaxy of speakers. There will be no technical papers, but we will be glad to have you come and attend our session. We have the Bureau of Clinical Medicine today; tomorrow Drug Pathogenesis, and the Surgical Bureau Thursday.

I feel we have a great deal in common, we Homeopaths and Eclectics. We believe in the rational use of drug therapy. We have a public who know something about it, particularly as they are bombarded all the time with drugs from pharmaceutical houses. So often they come to the conclusion a certain drug should be used and methods of publicity are pushed, when older and better drugs are more beneficial. I feel that is the chief function of my society and yours—to keep before the public the fact that we have tried methods of treatment and drugs which have stood the test of time. The public do not know that, but they should. It is up to us to keep it before them.

We will be happy to have you come to our meeting and I want to assure you of our cordial respect and regard for the Eclectics.

THE PRESIDENT: I want to introduce now another famous name among the Homeopaths, the Dean of Hahnemann College in Philadelphia. This gentleman and I come from a common ancestor. Dr. William M. Pierson of Philadelphia.

DR. WILLIAM M. PIERSON (Philadelphia): Mr. Chairman: I have had the very great pleasure of knowing, and know at the present time,

many splendid Eclectic physicians, and one of the gods that I admire is your Doctor Lloyd, a man who stands head and shoulders and four-square in scientific medicine. It was my very good fortune to know Dr. Scudder when he was active in the Eclectic Medical College, and for the last few years I have known Dr. Nellans. As a college administrator, let me plead with you to give Dr. Nellans your encouragement, your active support, and, if necessary, your life's blood. He is engaged in a difficult problem—reestablishing and reorganizing your college. Medical prejudices did not end with the last century and will not end with the next century, and in this country, where we are privileged to use a little personality and think perhaps more freely than citizens of other countries, it is perfectly proper for you as Eclectic physicians to have your own college. I know something of the thousand tribulations, and the fortitude that Dr. Nellans has manifested in the past two years, and he is not doing this for his own personal satisfaction or aggrandizement, but because he is loyal to Eclectic medicine. He is doing it for every Eclectic physician in the United States, doing it so that you men may really have a more valuable heritage. So I am pleading with you to give Dr. Nellans in his fundamental and valuable work your active support and cooperation, and as I have said, if necessary, your life's blood.

I wish you every success in your conference. In 1917 or 1918 the American Institute of Homeopathy met at the Statler Hotel, and the National Eclectic Medical Association met at the Tuller. At that time General Noble was actively enlisting medical men for the military service of our country and spoke to your organization and to our own, and at that time many of the younger men enlisted in the medical service by virtue of his invitation. So you have the same rights and privileges that any reputable group of physicians have and you are entitled to your beliefs, whatever they may be, in regard to the most efficient methods of treatment. This world I hope will never become so dogmatic and so utterly devoid of personal opinion that sick people will be treated by any rule of thumb. As the ultimate end of that policy you might expect the National Cash Register Company at Dayton, or some other such organization, eventually to build a machine whereby you could press a certain button and out would come a stereotyped, accepted treatment.³

I congratulate you on your coming together and talking over the experiences you have had during the past year, and I can assure you as

³ This, of course, is what we now have, in the 21st century: "Standard Practice Medicine"

a college administrator that we are actively interested in doing everything we possibly can to assist with the reestablishment and reorganization of your Eclectic college.

THE PRESIDENT : We thank these gentlemen for their visit and appreciate very much their" advice and their kind invitation.

* * * * *

Dr. T. D. Adlerman read the following letter from Dr. M. E. Daniel, Honey Grove, Texas:

To the National Eclectic Medical Association:

Forty-four years ago this month, at its Niagara Falls, N. Y., meeting, the writer of this appeal attended and became a member of your honorable body and was elected one of its vice-presidents. Down through these forty-four years have I paid annual dues, not a single year having lapsed.

I am not known to the majority of you who are in attendance today, and my long absence from your annual meetings, on the face of it, would indicate a lack of interest and concern in the welfare and perpetuity of our beloved "National" and the principles it represents. Far from it. For twenty-seven years I have been representing and defending Eclecticism as a member of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners and with but few exceptions your annual meetings have conflicted with our State Board meetings, which fact exists today as you read this appeal. Keep in mind that when you adjourn Friday, we, too, will adjourn Saturday at 6:00 o'clock p. m., after a four-days' strenuous grind with a class of 165 examinees plus the disposition of 60 reciprocity applicants. But for this conflict I would have been with you in your present session.

The burden of my anxious heart today is that I may *burn* into your conscience, as if with a white-heated iron, the non-evadable realization that you *are more than a Medical Society organised for the mutual exchange of ideas concerning medical and therapeutic progress—you are also a national medical educational rating agency.* Today, for anything to be reputably, recognizably Eclectic, it must have your endorsement—your o. k. For your endorsement to be effective, respected, necessarily depends upon your own reputability. This undeniably and irrefutably

means that you must foster, promote, prosecute and defend a standard of qualification for membership and medical college standard that *will command* respect—stand the test of merit and reput-ability—a standard that will *win* for us recognition under any *mandamus* proceeding in court, in any state or possession where “old glory” waves.

You might as well assume that we can walk through a *granite* wall without restraint as to assume that we can continue to succeed and command respect under a lower standard.

The need of our present emergency demands that you refuse membership to graduates of non-recognized and non-descript colleges, irrespective of schools, in medicine, *even should the applicant be legalized and recommended by a state society*. To do otherwise weakens and jeopardizes your influence and reputability to endorse—to give recognition to a medical college that does not meet every detail embodied in the above standard means to sacrifice your prestige as an educational rating agency. Far better that we continue with a limited membership and depend upon voluntary contribution for subsistence than to carry a padded, top-heavy membership of non-recognizables and nondescripts and to give your endorsement to an institution not meeting every requirement of a recognizable standard means to stigmatize our past one hundred years of glorious history.

As you deliberate, I trust you may invoke the guidance and counsel of the spirits of the six of the “old seven,” of Miles and Munn of Massachusetts, of Boskowitz and others of New York, of the lamented Goss and Durham of Georgia, of the Yeagleys of Pennsylvania, of Anton, Gemmill, Ressel, Scudder, Thomas of Ohio, of Baker of Michigan, of Clark, Jay, Ellingwood of Illinois, of Yonkin and Standle of Missouri, of Covert and Stevens of Wisconsin, of Webster and Monk of California, and others equally as great. Just as earnestly do I pray that the results of your deliberations may cheer the hearts of the remaining member of the “old seven” and others whose heads have grown white in the service.

Anxiously submitted,
M. E. DANIEL.

The president read his address, the president-elect, Dr. E. B. Shewman, in the chair.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

J. C. HUBBARD, M.D., OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Sixty-four years ago a body of far-seeing, courageous men of medicine joined their individual efforts in formulating the organization which we now represent. There were no national organizations with a leadership strong enough to attract the majority of physicians practicing in America. With the exception of the American Institute of Homeopathy, organization in medicine was in a chaotic state. Practice also was crude and purely empiric, while scientific medicine, as we know it today, was practically an unknown quantity.

It was obvious that if medicine was to progress and keep abreast of the times and become of real value, the time had come for the strong-hearted, progressive medical men of the day to organize themselves and dedicate that organization to the fulfilment of the ideal in medicine. The National Eclectic Medical Association was organized and today marks the completion of sixty-four years of splendid service to humanity.

The experiences of the past have taught us the value of honesty, courage, industry and devotion. In many periods during our career as an organization we have been faced with crises that appeared, at the time, to be insurmountable, but these crises were met with courage and overcome, and the fruits of our labors rewarded. We have weathered the storms of ignorant and vicious criticism from the outside together with the petty jealousies and sectionalism within our own ranks, and have always arrived a stronger, better and more valuable organization. Due credit for these accomplishments is given at this time, earnestly and without reservation to those great men who have laid down the burdens of this life and passed to their rewards, as well as to those who are yet with us, lending their enthusiasm and counsel. We, of this generation, appreciate the untiring efforts, the devotion, foresight and industry of those who have brought this heritage to us to enjoy and use. We place high value on the privilege of having a part in carrying on the splendid work of this organization.

We can not live on the valor of those who have gone before; nor is security for the present and future insured in the memory of the achievements of the past; but we can take our inspiration from the

deeds of those who have brought our organization up to this time, and do our duty for the present and plan for the future.

We are facing rapid and tremendous change in our social, business and professional life; in fact, every department of human conduct of pure necessity is forced to adapt itself to this change, and we, Eclectic physicians, are not exceptions to the rule. We must with courage adapt ourselves to the new conditions in order to keep pace with necessary social changes thrust upon us in rapidly changing time.

The problem of the present is fundamental and must be solved if we are to continue as the Eclectic Section in Medicine. We must choose between being absorbed by the dominant section, our professional activities dictated and controlled, our policies subject to the approval of an unfriendly, prejudiced, self-constituted authority, and soon lose our identity as the Eclectic Section of American Medicine, or adapt ourselves to the general social change and retain the old Eclectic values of individual freedom of thought and action, independence in practice and the right to use that which has stood the test of experience in our service to mankind.

If we are to retain the heritage passed on to us by our Eclectic fathers, we must purge ourselves of the cowering fear of prejudicial criticism that comes from the uninformed and vicious contingent of the majority section in medicine. Rather should we listen to the voice of suffering humanity calling for physicians to relieve pain, restore and maintain health and efficiency; for institutions of intelligence and understanding dedicated and standardized for the purpose of rendering service.

Opportunity spreads before us like the unfolding rose. We can reach out, grasp it and use it. Or, in our imagination fear the thorns of criticism on its stem and cower and back away. The decision is ours. Shall we continue to go forward as leaders or follow the procession as a pitiful, tolerated minority? We can no longer run our institutions and meet modern competition in a modern world with antiquated and obsolete methods.

We are agreed that we are a minority—that we are honorable, that our integrity is unchallenged, that our ability is equal to the best, that our service to mankind is of distinct and unchallenged value, that for the past century we have dedicated ourselves to the progress of the art and

ethical practice of scientific medicine; that we have held up the family physician and medical advisor as a standard and that our contributions are as valuable to organized scientific medicine as that of any other group of like number.

If the foregoing is true, is it not incumbent upon those of us who are to carry on for a few years the burden of this organization, to more earnestly lend ourselves to the advancement of those virtues peculiar to our group?

The one great thing that distinguishes man from others of the animal kingdom is his ability to adapt himself to the continual change about him. He has conquered the air, the depths of the sea and pushed back the mystery of science and made practical use of his discoveries. It is our responsibility—yours and mine—as individuals to reassert the old courage under new conditions, using new methods and go forward regardless of the opposition we may meet, and it can be done. Under stress of necessity, man can accomplish almost the infinite as has been demonstrated many times in this organization.

The association and the Eclectic physicians throughout the country for the past number of years have suffered from anxiety, neurosis and lethargy. Their pride and heritage has almost been lost to them. Many in our ranks have felt that the work of our group was finished, that it would be easier to join the majority and forget the struggles of the past. Others have felt that there was no use to fight on in the presence of apparent overwhelming odds; but again, as in the past, the courage of our leaders has asserted itself and we stand on the threshold of a “new deal” in Eclectic medicine.

Some thirty years ago, before the Flexner Committee, there were 168 medical colleges in the United States. From this number of colleges approximately 5,000 physicians were graduated yearly. Scholastic attainment as a preliminary requirement to enter upon the study of medicine was not enforced; there were no standard medical curricula, but moral character, adaptability, physical and mental capacity, were necessary in order to meet competition in the medical world. To be a physician was a high honor and it was necessary in competition with others to maintain a reputation unchallenged, and moral and ethical conduct were prerequisites for successful practice; and, although the lack of standardized curricula and the prevalent empirical teaching were

deplorable, the people demanded and received men of character and good reputation as their doctors. It was during the period prior to the Flexner Committee that the great family physician was produced—that great soul whom everyone loved and adored and turned to with confidence. Almost from that date has the honored family physician been gradually “passing out of the picture,” being replaced by specialists created by methods of mass production and concentration.

Let it be understood at this time that no criticism of standardization for the development and teaching of scientific medicine is meant, for no one appreciates more fully than I the wonderful advantages of standardized curricula which forced the discarding of empiricism. But, with the advancement of standardization, economic and social abuses have forced themselves into the picture which tend to lower the morale and shatter the ideals of the profession. The physician of today is not required to be a man of high character with a reputation unsullied as a citizen and gentleman. It is not necessary that he hold unsullied the honor of the profession. Rather the requirements appear to be solely pure scholarship and definite skill in special fields of practice. These economic and social abuses that have developed together with the advance of standardized medical teaching have to be faced and solved, and we of the Eclectic group can well devote much time and energy to the solution.

I am old fashioned enough to believe that in our “new deal” in Eclectic medicine by looking into the work of the past we can find the solution in the selection and preparation of those who are to carry on the work of this organization after we are gone.

For the moment we will look at the condition of medical education as represented by the majority group, dictated by their central authority in Chicago and followed reluctantly, I hope, by their educators.

They have adopted the policy of drastic forced reduction of medical graduates by raising economic and material barriers preliminary to the study of medicine, by enforcing the rule of pure scholarship, by padding the pre-medical and pre-clinical years of study with courses that are of no value in broad fundamental education and have no bearing upon the study and practice of practical medicine, and by arbitrarily failing a certain percentage of each of the pre-clinical classes, following an apparent unwritten agreement among themselves.

A large portion of the first two years of a medical student's life is spent in the study and investigation of irrelevant and unnecessary material with no sound reason except to create an obstacle for him to overcome. This serves to render the mind of the medical student chaotic and also kills initiative, the one great virtue, which should be the key of every medical practitioner's armamentarium. The present-day medical student for the first year lives in mortal dread and becomes an abject slave to his instructors for fear that he may be "busted." He realizes that there is an unwritten agreement among medical educators to fail 20 or 30 per cent. of each freshman class. He is forced to determine and report the "pH of Pigeon Blood" the chemistry of "rabbit dung" and spend hours upon the fanciful hobbies of men who know nothing and are untrained in the practice of medicine. The same conduct holds good for the second year where the student is burdened constantly with unnecessary and impractical courses, always living in fear of being expelled, not for an infraction of the code of honor, not for any fear of criticism because of his moral or ethical conduct, but for fear of his lack of attainment of pure scholarship in subjects which have no actual bearing on his chosen vocation in life and no value in broad fundamental education.

During the clinical years, the initiative of the student is further clouded by the long periods of assignment to duties of the technician and clerk. He is held in a state of absolute discipline wherein he is not able to use his own faculties nor apply his previous training, but is forced to become a servant looking for and finding the peculiar hobbies of his professors. Original thought and action is discouraged, he becomes a "boot licker" for those set over him and after his graduation he knows nothing whatever about the art of medicine. His next enforced step does not help. He goes to an approved hospital for a year to serve an internship, still doing the meager and minor duties of an orderly. He is not allowed to assume the responsibility of using his own mind and can not place himself in contact with the sick public as a physician. Finally, we have an individual who has spent seven to eleven years after graduation from high school in preparation for the practice of medicine, with initiative and independent action practically destroyed, unskilled in the art of medicine with little or no training in humanism or social science, with a vague idea as to the duties of citizenship and, in most cases, ignorant as to the functions of his government. He is just a highly trained, fundamentally uneducated specialist, wholly unfamiliar with the common problems of life and the social and mental causes of disease.

Compare the foregoing with the time-honored American Eclectic method where fundamental preparation and broad education are emphasized through an understanding, personal preceptorship that lends confidence, encourages initiative and promotes individual responsibility. Add to this the modern requirements of an understanding of the liberal arts, sociology and citizenship, a thorough technical training in the art and practice of modern medicine. where character, common honesty, moral capacity and industry are enforced as prerequisites to graduation. There can be no question as to which method to choose.

The opportunity is ours—our nation is calling for physicians in contradistinction to the specialist. Let us produce educated physicians, men of character and understanding who will not stoop to cunning as a measure to success; who, as physicians, do not need a fence of material barriers and enforced reduction of graduates as a defense against the competition of their colleagues, or the inroads of the narrow cults in healing. Let us feel secure in our “duty well done” and feel the responsibility of our trusteeship for the future. Let us be honest with ourselves and know that we need only to maintain our ideal to be successful.

The “new deal” in Eclectic medicine means a consecrated movement looking toward the permanency and individuality of our institutions. We must set a standard of medical education and preparation, truly Eclectic in character and embody within it the ideals of our association. Let us unite and support a standard of medical education that will insure the people the best trained, educated physician attainable. Let us rededicate ourselves to the ideal standard of American Eclectic teaching and not swerve from it regardless of the storms of opposition which we may encounter. Our requirements must be equal to the best, but beyond this we must require character and fundamental education. Let us build now for those of our group who are especially adapted to the work and assure them the privilege of broad research. We need not fear opposition or criticism if we carry on our ideals under the new conditions using new methods to meet the new changes of the rapidly moving modern world in which we live.

The time for decision is facing us. Do we still retain the courage of our Eclectic conviction ? Have we the bravery of a Scudder, King, Howe, Ellingwood or Lloyd to carry on to completion the glorious work planned

and fostered by those great pioneers? Or will we listen to the voice of their enemy and cower in the face of “the bugaboo” of opposition and continue a pitiful, tolerated minority—a small alumni association of a second-rate medical school of practice, foredoomed to lose its identity and be destroyed in the jaws of the moloch of high finance and selfishness in medical education and practice? The choice is ours—the broad field of unobstructed opportunity lies before us to retain and foster individualism in education and practice essentially Eclectic in character, which our pioneers bought at the sacrifice of popular acclaim, social and professional ostracism and handed to us as our heritage and birthright.

* * * * *

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF NECROLOGY

The submission of this report probably closes my official connection with this association. Chairmanship of this committee has become to me like a graveyard, looking the inevitable squarely in the face. So far as personal recollections go, Felter and I have been the only ones to head this committee. It is not a delightful pastime to gather these statistics and especially so when one sees one's associates and even former students pass one by one “beyond the Divide.” One must of necessity grow old and lose out in the struggles of life, but one does not fancy being constantly looking that fact squarely in the face. It is hard to grow old gracefully, especially when one seems to be possessed of all his faculties.

(113 recently deceased N.E.M.A. members list omitted)

We have records of 113 deaths during the year. The average age was 66.4 plus. There were three aged respectively 98, 95, and 90 years.

There were 13 between 80 and 85, 5 between 85 and 90, 13 between 75 and 80, 14 between 70 and 75, 15 between 65 and 70, 13 between 60 and 65, 14 between 55 and 60, 9 between 50 and 55, 4 between 45 and 50, 2 between 40 and 45, 1, 39 and 1, 30.

The average age is somewhat higher than is that for the medical profession as a whole. It is easily accounted for by reason of the advance age of our men. *No recent graduates.*

The states represented and numbers in each follow. It is a wide distribution, as Arkansas reports 2 deaths, California 13, Colorado 2, Florida 5, Georgia 7, Idaho 1, Illinois 16, Indiana 8, Iowa 4, Kansas 5, - Kentucky 2, Michigan 3, Minnesota 3, Missouri 5, Nebraska 2, New Jersey 1, New York 5, North Carolina 1, Ohio 9, Oklahoma 2, Pennsylvania 1, Texas 5, West Virginia 5, Wisconsin 2, and one each in Ontario and Porto Rico.

The colleges represented among the deceased and the number credited to each are about as follows: Chicago 27, Cincinnati 35, The American Eclectic of Cincinnati 4, Georgia 12, Kansas City 9, New York 7, St. Louis 12, and I find 2 credited to Indianapolis and 1 to Philadelphia, he being 98 years old and a native of Ontario.

EDITORIALS

MEDICAL COLLEGE RESPONSIBILITIES

The time was when the only care of a medical college was presumed to exercise over a student was that of giving him adequate college facilities. It is perhaps still true of many, who feel that having done this, their responsibility ceases.

It was once true, also, that the medical student might be dissolute, even dissipated, without bringing upon himself the mark of great opprobium. Indeed, it was not unusual for practitioners to recount with glee the pranks they played when students, thus setting a sorrowful example for their students to emulate.

Whatever one may think of the ethics of eating and drinking, of pleasure, fun and recreation, it is evident that dissipation that debases is to be decried. Whatever tends to sacrifice the present opportunities of a young person, mortgages his future to the bad. This is as true of a student of medicine as of one in a literary college. There is no standard of dissipation that will disgrace a young man seeking knowledge in a general sense that will not equally disgrace the young man seeking medical education. The first qualification demanded of a physician is morality. This being true, the first consideration of the medical student is to be grounded in true ethics which will enable him to become in

every sense an honorable physician.

Gradually it has come to be that old time harum-scarum ideas concerning the privileges of medical students are subject to thoughtful criticism. It is no longer permissible, as a bit of fun, for a man to be rowdy, and excuse himself because he is studying medicine.

The professional dignity of the physician begins, more and more each year, in the integrity of the man who is to become the physician. Morality, probity, ethics that concern home, humanity, and true patriotism, demand that the people look up to the physician. The necessity is no less than the better element of the community should be able to look in admiration at the medical student.

The writer once listened in boyish wonder to the stories recounted by a man, who, as a student, should not only have known better than to practice the "jokes" he perpetrated on his professors and classmates, but should also have known better than to relate them in his more mature years. It can be said with all earnestness that such conduct now would meet immediate expulsion.

Medical colleges of the first class are not now concerned in the curriculum of medicine alone. They are concerned as never before in the morality of the student entering college, his deportment while in college, and his record after he earns his diploma. No board of trustees wants a dissipated student ; no college needs a rowdy in its classes; no graduate whose ideals are low credits his Alma Mater either before or after graduation.

These facts are facts. As one concerned in the coming graduates and the present class of the Eclectic Medical College, this writer pleads that mothers, fathers, kinsmen generally, impress on their loved ones, perhaps coming for the first time to a great city, the necessity of establishing a record in conduct that will go back home as a mark of honor and pride. The Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati will take every opportunity to serve the better side of life, so far as diversions, recreations and amusements are concerned. The college expects that parents and relatives of the young people will do their share in helping the college in its laudable endeavor to not only give the very best medical education attainable, but to guide the student to needful, pleasurable recreation, and to give him moral guidance which in after

life will be looked back upon as a fundamental part of the course he took toward becoming a successful practitioner. J. U. LLOYD.

OUR COLLEGE

We just returned from a third inspection of the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati—our college.

The Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati is the bud from which will proceed the flower destined to send perfume and fragrance to many a city, town and village. Does it not behoove us, as Eclectics (apart from the duty of sending students for its support) to demonstrate our individual interest in its culture and growth?

Does our duty end when we have dismissed the student from our office to add to its numbers? Does our responsibility culminate when we visit commencement and clap our hands at its success. The success of Eclectic medicine, as a reform school, depends as much upon the efforts and encouragement of every member of the Eclectic profession as upon the exertion of the college faculty.

Let us then, one and all, pay occasional visits during the sessions of the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, leaving not only a few practical thoughts—thoughts of experience which may both encourage and instruct the students—but also substantial evidence of our goodwill and support.

Spencer wrote of friendship: “The gradual culture of kind intercourse must bring it to perfection.”

The education of the masses is of paramount importance. To have the people thoroughly grounded in the principles of our school of medicine should be the object and aim of every Eclectic physician.

There are places, many of them, all over the United States, where Eclectic physicians are doing a reputable and very remunerative practice in all the branches of medicine and surgery—neurologists, othologists, ophthalmologists, pediatricians, urologists, general practitioners, surgeons, gynecologists, etc.—but the school to which they belong is unheard of or unknown to their patients.

Preeminence is not to be attained unless every individual of the thousands of Eclectic physicians becomes fully impressed with the importance and desirability of the Eclectic school of medicine occupying the high position which it deserves, and is willing to lend his best efforts to its consummation.

The Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati has done much in the past and is doing much at the present time for the diffusion and for the cause of Eclecticism. Its officers and faculty are energetic, earnest men, fully alive to the importance of keeping up the high standard of medical education.

The Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati is the standard for all future Eclectic medical colleges. No cheap, questionable institutions will be tolerated by us. Once more we declare that we want the best, or none at all.

ADLERMAN.

DO YOU KNOW?

That no branch of the science of medicine has been more neglected by the dominant school of medicine, than materia medica, is a fact that no one will presume to deny. Why our old school friends are content with the therapeutic knowledge of a few remedies and of these an undue proportion of a mischievous character, while the field of vegetable botany lies before them is a great enigma to us.

That patients sometime recover under the plan of treatment, we are willing to admit, but that most of them do, we deny. Comes to our mind the words of Lacon, "The patients have had a fortunate escape," the *vis medical rix natura* have been sufficiently potent to dispossess the disease and overcome the effects of noxious drugs.

Indeed, but for the labors of the Eclectic school of medicine, the materia medica of our country would still remain unknown. It is we who have rescued it from oblivion, and given to the world valuable therapeutic agents, convenient for use, pleasant to taste and very efficient in their action.

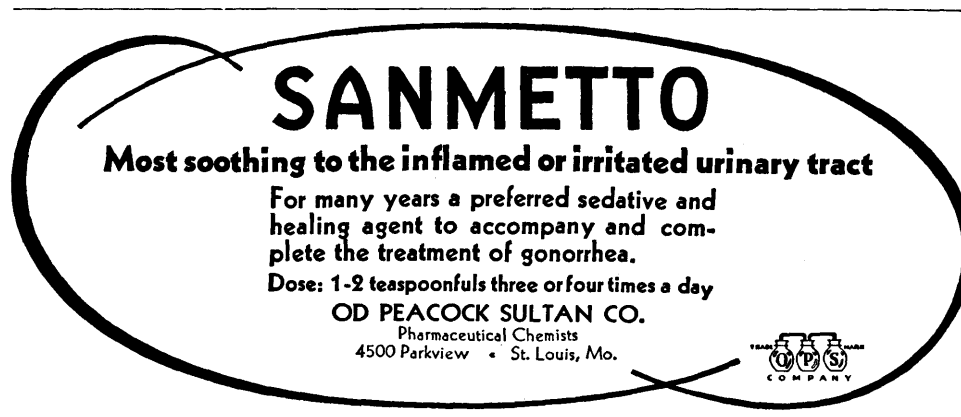
Many of our remedies have a specific action upon specific organs, surfaces or tissues, are directly curative in their action upon diseased parts of the body.

Take hydrastis canadensis. This great drug has a specific action on mucous surfaces, and its action in this direction is so apparent that the indications for its employment can not be mistaken. Iris versicolor has a positive action upon the glandular system, and is invaluable as an alterative and resolvent ; it is powerfully depurating and is indicated in scrofula, glandular swellings, syphilis, etc.


Podophylum is directed to the liver and hepatic ducts. Cactus grandiflorus quiets the action of the heart in palpitation from nervous excitement or other causes, while our old friend veratrum viride acts directly upon the same organ as a sedative and controls its pulsation with more certainty than any other agent known.

In the materia medica indigenous to the United States, the field for investigation is still very large. "The leaves of the trees of life are for the healing of the nations." Who of the men of wealth will place at our disposal means for the construction and equipment of new laboratories to further explore and prosecute our inquiries in the vegetable materia medica?

ADLERMAN.



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