

NOTES FROM THE MEDICAL PRESS

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

NORMAL BLOOD PRESSURE.—*The Journal of the American Medical Association* says that blood pressure changes with age, as well as with other factors. It appears that the blood pressure in young women is more uniform than in young men. In experiments, the range for women was practically from 85 to 155; for men from 90 to 175. Fifty per cent of the women's readings fell between 105 and 119 mm; fifty per cent of the men's readings fell between 116.5 and 136.5 mm. High blood pressure appears earlier and to a greater degree in young men than in young women. It is suggested that over 130 mm for women and over 140 mm for men are abnormal.

DRUG ADDICTS AND PROHIBITION.—It is stated that examinations conducted by the *Narcotic Division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue*, embracing several thousand drug addicts, revealed no evidence of an increase of the narcotic habit since prohibition went into effect.

THE HUNGRY BABY.—It is believed that breast fed babies who cry at a particular time each day, usually the late afternoon and at night, do so from hunger. Supplemental and complementary feeding, given with a cup and spoon should be tried.

RESUSCITATION IN ANESTHESIA FATALITIES.—*The British Medical Journal* says that the stopping of the circulation for thirty minutes means death. After that time, neither cardiac massage, nor artificial respiration is of any avail.

TYPHOID CARRIERS.—A writer in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* says endemic typhoid will persist as long as persistent infectiousness is undetected. The gall bladder is the seat of this danger. In the event of the typhoid bacilli persisting in this locality there is only one safe procedure,—cholecystectomy, which removes the source of infection and the danger of its transmission.

APPENDICITIS.—It is stated in the same *Journal* that if appendicitis begins with pain and vomiting, the indications for operation are positive, as gangrene or suppuration must be present. The pulse and temperature not being alarming is not a contraindication for operation.