LITTLE DRUNKENNESS AMONG NATIVES.

The freedom of the Filipino from the vice of drunkenness is strikingly shown when we find that out of 5,000 men only three individuals were treated for alcoholism in one year, and that while white soldiers were admitted to sick report on account of their own misconduct in the use of alcohol at the rate of 24.78 per 1,000, and colored troops at the rate of 11.70, the Malay scouts showed the extremely small admission rate of 0.62 per 1,000.

MORE VENEREAL DISEASE.

The steadily increasing prevalence of venereal disease is the most discouraging feature in the sick report of the army. During 1902 13,000 admissions were from this cause alone, equivalent to a rate of 160.94 per 1,000. Admissions to sick report from alcoholism in 1902 were slightly in excess of the number (including volunteers) for 1901. A total number of 1,830 cases, equivalent to 22.65 per 1,000 of strength, occurred.

INCREASE DUE TO LOSS OF CANTEEN.

It is impossible not to attribute a large part of the steadily increasing venereal disease of the army to the loss of the canteen, where the soldier, if he so desired, could get his beer throughout the month, but was not subjected to the temptations to intemperance and vice now attendant on the expenditure of a full month's pay at the low resorts infesting the outskirts of our military reservations.

LESS INSANITY.

A slight diminution of insanity occurred in the army during 1902. There were 138 new cases, equivalent to the admission rate of 1.71 per 1,000, which is almost identical with the rate for the decade 1891 to 1900.

CANADA.

A new marine hospital is to be built at Louisbourg, N. S., where it is needed because of the increase of shipping.

A New Hospital for Epileptics.—Work has begun on the new hospital for epileptics at Woodstock, Ont. It is expected that the buildings will be ready for occupation Aug. 1, 1904.

An epidemic of smallpox has broken out at Big Pond, a country settlement near Sydney, Nova Scotia. Eleven cases are so far reported, but the disease is said to be of a very virulent type.

Brandon General Hospital.—The new hospital at Brandon, Man., is being erected 36 by 89 feet, of stone and brick, with two stories and a basement. It will contain thirty-two beds and will cost about \$25,000.

Progress Toward the Alexandra Hospital, Montreal.—Ground has been purchased and architects have been requested to submit plans for the erection of a complete infectious hospital of four pavilions to accommodate 100 patients.

Personal.—Dr. J. N. Waters, London, Ont., is to take up the work among the farming boys of Central India, succeeding the late Dr. Menzies, who died at Mhow recently, a victim of the plague. Dr. Waters attended Toronto University and graduated from Trinity Medical College.—Dr. Macdougall King, Toronto, has been appointed instructor of physiology in the medical department of the University of Denver.

Hotel Dieu Hospital, Montreal, Report.—There were treated in this hospital during the month of August 603 in-patients and 2,117 out-patients. Of the latter 1,117 were treated in the eye, ear, nose and throat departments. The following is the newly-appointed house staff of the Hotel Dieu: Senior house surgeon, Dr. Bourgeois, and Drs. Ludovic Verner, J. R. Hamelin, G. E. Bedard, Henri Prevost and Eugene Latreille.

FOREIGN.

Italian Congress of Internal Medicine.—The thirteenth Italian congress of internal medicine will meet at Padua, October 29. The questions announced for discussion are "Individuality in Pathogenesis and Etiology of Disease," "Immunity in Acute Infectious Diseases," and "Interruption of Pregnancy in Internal Diseases."

The Approaching International Congress of Gynecology.—It is announced from St. Petersburg that the date of this congress has been definitely set for September, 1905. The czar has taken the congress under his special charge and elaborate preparations will be made to render the fifth international congress a memorable one.

Another Monument to Charcot.—A handsome portrait bust and bas-reliefs have been erected at the French watering-place of Lamalou-les-Bains to the memory of Charcot. The bronze bust is the work of Madame Charcot. The memorial was dedicated with great ceremony on the occasion of the visit of the party of 120 physicians on the "Medical Study Trip" of 1903. The biographic and historic addresses are given in full in the *Progrès Médical*, September 26.

Prophylaxis of Venereal Disease Among Students.—The Prussian minister of public instruction has notified the faculties of the universities that steps must be taken to warn the students against the dangers of venereal disease to health and

morals. He suggests as the most appropriate means short public lectures for the students in all departments of the universities, the lecturers to be from the faculties of medicine, philosophy and theology. These faculties are bidden to organize such courses at their earliest convenience. Our medical exchanges remark that the co-operation of the theologians might be dispensed with as the students know well enough the ethical side of the matter but choose to disregard it. The extent of the peril to health, however, is not known to most of them, and in this they need enlightenment.

France Enforces Destruction of Rats on Vessels from Infected Ports.—The French authorities have been aroused by the outbreak of plague at Marseilles to issue more stringent regulations. The alleged disinfection of the bales of rags from Constantinople having proved inadequate to prevent infection of the workmen handling them, the minister of the interior has decreed compulsory destruction of the rats on ships from infected ports. The measures against the rats can be undertaken during the voyage or after arrival before unloading. They must be by means of apparatus whose efficiency has been established by the national health department, and which are to be placed at the disposal of the officers of the ships on arriving, under the surveillance of the local boards of health. A certificate will be issued by the latter when the regulation has been complied with, and the ship may then proceed to unload. Lortet and Teissier have been writing to the Paris lay press urging the uselessness of quarantines as at present conducted if the rats are left unmolested. The generation of carbon dioxid has proved insufficient, as although it kills the rats it leaves the plague bacilli unharmed. They recommend the Clayton apparatus as the best adapted for the purpose. It generates gases fatal to animal life while not injuring nor fading goods. Marseilles is now declared free from the plague.

Benefits from Organization of the Profession at Munich.—The solid, united front presented by the members of the profession at Munich to the sick benefit societies, has resulted in a signal victory. Every society has agreed to their terms and demands. This includes the adoption of the American plan of free choice of a medical attendant, annual remuneration of 4 marks per capita and 12 marks per family (\$1 and \$3), and the organization of an "arbitration board" for each society, consisting of 2 physicians, 2 non-medical officers of the society and a lawyer not connected with the society. Extra demands on the physicians are to receive extra remuneration. The medical press is congratulating the Munich physicians for this remarkable victory, beyond their most sanguine anticipations. They urge united organization elsewhere as bound in time to produce equally favorable results. An entire column in the *Münch. Med. Wochft.* and almost two in the *Deutsche Med. Wochft.* are now devoted to warning ads cautioning outside physicians not to go to certain towns "without consulting the undersigned." The latter journal has nine such ads, all subsided by one of the officers of the *Leipziger Verband*. The importance of the question in Germany may be estimated from the fact that 18 per cent. of the total population of the German Empire are compelled to belong to these sick-benefit societies, nearly ten millions in 1900. This is an average of 347.8 members to one medical attendant, and including the rest of the family, 695.6 individuals to each sick-benefit society physician.

Correspondence.

The Nickname "Allopath."

BALTIMORE, Oct. 5, 1903.

To the Editor:—Your editorial, with quotation from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, which shows that among "4,188 persons employed in the profession of medicine" in Massachusetts, "the number of physicians who are willing to answer to the nickname of allopath was 1,432," is startling, even though qualified by the suggestion that in some cases "an ignorant census-taker" may have been responsible for a wrongful classification. This narrow and restrictive misnomer, introduced in contemptuous terms by Hahnemann in his "Organon" in 1810, however repugnant to physicians in good and regular standing, we may charitably assume was not used in an offensive sense by the census-taker of the State Bureau of Labor Statistics. Not only to the illiterate, but, to a large extent, to the educated classes, the word conveys no significance

except in the negative way of contradistinction from homoeopathy. But inconsiderate assent to such misleading characterization of rational medicine by "physicians who are not sectarians" is altogether another matter. Twenty-two years ago, in an essay on "The Prevalent Misuse of the Term Allopathy," read before the American Academy of Medicine, the writer took occasion to say:

Well-educated and well-bred people, whom we can not charge with intentional discourtesy, whom we can not suspect of any disposition to wound our sensibility, so habitually use the word in common conversation that there is no hope of escape from the infliction except by revolutionary procedure. But this revolution must begin at home. We must aim the first blow of resistance at the foes of our own household. What only stirs our impatience with the unprofessional offender should provoke active resentment against the sinner in our own ranks. There are too many in the household of faith in the attitude of indolent acquiescence in the misuse of the word in question, and even of tacit acceptance of its implied reproach and its transparent falsity.

Similarly inappropriate and inconsistent in this age of unparalleled activity, progress and achievement, is the term "Old School" physician, which is still encountered in some parts of the country in the profession as well as out of it. What have we to do with the old except so far as it concerns the new? The leaders of thought and action are in the forefront of investigation, and the rank and file are imbued with the spirit of advancement. To apply such epithets as "allopath" and "old school" to the faithful workers who are patiently solving the intricate problems before us, who are emancipating medicine, the science and the art, from the mists and shadows, and widening it into the infinite capabilities of new life and larger liberty, is a form of perversity which is exasperating to say the least. And if, as appears from your significant quotation, there are those among us who do not properly resent the obnoxious "pathy" when applied to the comprehensive range and character of our professional objects and labors, and in whose ears such sophistical terms leave no jarring dissonance, there is evidently room for missionary work within our own ranks. So long as the profession itself submits to or winks at such misrepresentation there can be no terms of compromise, no middle ground of tolerance; all that is left is demand for unconditional surrender.

CHARLES C. BOMBAUGH, M.D.

Virginia Medical Society Proceedings.

ROANOKE, VA., Oct. 24, 1903.

To the Editor:—I observe in THE JOURNAL, October 3, that your reporter of the proceedings of the recent meeting of the State Medical Society of Virginia has got things a little mixed, and I hasten to make the correction: There were charges of various kinds preferred against "seven" of the Roanoke doctors, but it appears that not one of these charges was clearly sustained before the judiciary committee, and I can not understand why your reporter singled out my name and omitted the others. While it is true that when I located in this city three years ago I made a few professional announcements through a newspaper of my establishing a private sanitarium here, giving its location and objects, I fail to see wherein I violated in the least degree the true spirit of the Principles of Ethics, more especially since the Virginia State Medical Society permits business cards and professional announcements of private hospitals to appear in the newspaper.

BITTLE C. KEISTER, M.D.

Queries and Minor Notes.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS will not be noticed. Queries for this column must be accompanied by the writer's name and address, but the request of the writer not to publish his name will be faithfully observed.

METHODS OF ITINERANT PRACTITIONERS.

OREGON, Sept. 30, 1903.

To the Editor:—Is it not in bad taste, if not a violation of the spirit of the Principles of Medical Ethics, for members of a state medical society to travel over the country, like traveling quacks, staying one day in a place every month, after giving notice through the local newspapers of the time of their coming? J. O.

STATES AND TERRITORIES RECOGNIZING DIPLOMAS.

NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 10, 1903.

To the Editor:—Please give a list of states and territories having no state board for examination of candidates wishing to practice medicine. Can you furnish it or inform me where to apply?

S. G. J.

ANSWER.—The following states and territories recognize diplomas without requiring examination: Colorado, Kentucky, New Mexico, Nevada and Wyoming (also in one tribal division of Indian Territory). In New Mexico scrutiny of the diploma is very strict and only diplomas of a few of the leading institutions are accepted. In other states, as in Colorado, an examination is required if the diploma is not satisfactory, but the lines are not so closely drawn. We annually publish a little book entitled "Laws Regulating the Practice of Medicine in the Various States and Territories." The last edition is revised to July 1, 1903, and may be had for 30 cents.

PHYSICIAN'S WIFE CHARGED FOR LODGE EXAMINATION.

WISCONSIN, Oct. 9, 1903.

To the Editor:—Dr. A and Dr. B have always been on friendly terms. Dr. A is examining physician for an insurance and fraternal order that Dr. B and his wife wish to join. They go to Dr. A for examination, who does not charge Dr. B for his examination, but does charge Mrs. B. Is this in accordance with the Principles of Ethics? X.

ANSWER.—Sec. 2, Art. II of Chap. II of the Principles of Ethics says: "All practicing physicians and their immediate family dependents are entitled to the gratuitous services of any one or more of the physicians residing near them." This, however, refers to the services of one physician to another or to another's family in case of sickness; the case in point is more of a business transaction, and we see nothing unethical in Dr. A's charging for his services, if he so desires. Few physicians, however, would charge for the services mentioned.

Marriages.

OMAR BARTON PANCOAST, M.D., to Miss Joe Anna Ross, at Baltimore, October 1.

ROBERT SHERMAN KIRK, M.D., to Miss Alma Louise Seldler, both of Baltimore, October 1.

JOHN L. KIRKPATRICK, M.D., to Miss Maude Smith, both of Los Angeles, Cal., September 30.

HARRY ANDREWS COTTON, M.D., Boston, to Miss Alice Della Keys, at Baltimore, September 27.

FRED C. BLACKWELDER, M.D., Roswell, N. M., to Miss Mary Tutweiler of Indianapolis, October 7.

WINFIELD B. MARTIN, M.D., Freeport, Ill., to Miss Iona MacDonald of Chicago, September 30.

EDWARD J. FLEETWOOD, M.D., Wakefield, Neb., to Miss Inez E. Hultquist, at Osceola, Neb., September 16.

THOMAS B. CURRAN, M.D., Tacoma, Wash., to Miss Elizabeth Griggs Butler of Detroit, Mich., September 24.

JAMES LAWTON HIERS, M.D., Savannah, Ga., to Miss Elizabeth Meredith Maxwell of Omaha, Neb., October 7.

J. HAMILTON CHARTERS, M.D., Gaylord, Mich., to Miss Ethel Louise Chisholm of West Bay City, Mich., September 22.

H. HAYWARD STREET, M.D., Baltimore, to Miss Olivia S. Baldwin of Long Green Valley, Baltimore County, Md., October 1.

W. A. HEMINGWAY, M.D., a medical missionary of Shansi, China, formerly of Oak Park, Ill., to Miss Mary Williams, at Oxford, Ohio, October 1.

Deaths.

Joshua G. Allen, M.D. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1856, died at his home in Philadelphia, September 26, from heart disease, aged 73. In 1863 he became visiting physician to the Philadelphia Lying-in Charity and Nurses' Home, which position he filled for thirty years. He was a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society.

John H. B. Amick, M.D. University of Pennsylvania, 1876, a member of the Philadelphia Common Council for five years; inspector of drugs in the custom house during Harrison's administration, and during the Spanish-American War major-surgeon of the Nineteenth Pennsylvania Infantry, U. S. V.,