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Addresses.

THE FIELD OF THE SECTION ON PATHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE SECTION, AT THE
FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AT ATLANTIC CITY,
JUNE 7-10, 1904.

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In accordance with past precedent and the dictates of our program, it becomes my pleasant duty to address a few words to those who have labored in the Section on Pathology and Physiology, congratulatory of its past successes and anticipatory of its future.

Born in 1900 in this city by the sea, our infant Section has been nurtured amid surroundings most conducive to successful growth and development. Its first anniversary found it on the banks of the Father of Waters in far-away St. Paul, where it learned to stand alone; its second anniversary among the healthful springs of Saratoga; its third among the flowers of New Orleans, and its fourth in the city of its birth. Feeble at the start, its life despaired of even by those most interested in its welfare, it has successfully passed through the dangers of infancy, until we now find it a vigorous and lusty baby, eminently fitted to survive.

We are a small Section, and such we must expect to remain, for the Section exists exclusively for those who labor in technical work, and they are few in number. The formation of this Section was at first opposed, because it seemed to support that unfortunate tendency toward differentiation that has found its way into so many departments of medicine. It was correctly argued that pathology is a department of medicine, without which clinical medicine can not succeed. All papers on pathologic subjects are and must ever be of interest to every physician. But it might equally well be said that pathology is of interest to the surgeon, to the gynecologist, to the ophthalmologist, and that it is of fundamental importance in every department of medicine. It was feared that the papers contributed to the meetings of this Section would benefit no one, and so be lost; at the same time that the other sections would be correspondingly impoverished. But the formation of the Section was not intended to disturb the close relation of pathology to the other branches of medical science, or detract from the success of the other sections. It was formed to be a technical section. It is not expected that papers of general interest shall be confined to this Section, because they happen to be on subjects in pathology. But as the Association is large and includes in its membership many whose interests are in pathology alone, and whose daily problems are purely technical and of interest to others engaged only in

similar work, this Section provides an opportunity for their mutual benefit to be derived from the reading and discussing of papers on these limited subjects.

It is only as it fulfills this end and brings together the technical men to discuss the technical problems that the Section properly accomplishes its function and can be a success. Should it withdraw from the larger sections papers of benefit to their members, I should regard it as an evil; and in order that such a misfortune may not occur, an endeavor was made both this year and last to arrange for a number of conjoint meetings, at which the pathologists and physiologists and the medical men, the pathologists and physiologists and the surgeons, and the pathologists and physiologists and hygienists might come together for the discussion of subjects of common interest. It is our conviction that some such plan will best profit the members of our own and the other sections. A paper on some new method of preparing morbid specimens for museum demonstration, or on methods of cultivating the smegma bacillus is best presented before this Section, and of most benefit to its members. One on the mechanical or nervous factors involved in some form of heart disease is likely to be of equal interest to the members of the Section on Practice of Medicine, and more properly finds its place on their program.

The success of the Section is not to be judged by the number of papers read, but by their excellence. Let there be a rigid censorship of papers before and after reading. Whatever of poor quality is published as coming from this Section injures it, and reflects discredit on the great body of which it is a part.

The American Medical Association is the national representative body. Its journal is the most popular and probably the most voluminous in the country, and one of the best known in the world. No paper can be too good for presentation at these meetings, and no paper can be better placed, no matter how technical it is, than in THE JOURNAL of the American Medical Association. Though there are other technical societies before whose meetings technical and scientific papers must be read, and in whose official organs they may be published, none can be looked on as having the breadth of scope, the dignity or the importance of the American Medical Association, and in none of their journals can papers receive the wide publicity they secure through its journal.

The members of this Section must be the particular patrons of the Scientific Exhibit, and should consider it as a duty to contribute to it. The enthusiasm of Dr. Wynn and his indefatigable energy can not be too highly appreciated. Rarely has a man had greater problems to contend with, greater obstacles to overcome, or more firmly rooted prejudices to eradicate than this devoted

student. Let him receive the support of every member of the Section.

The Association contains many whose opportunities for seeing even the most ordinary specimens must be limited, and many whose opportunities are excellent; therefore, it matters little whether the objects exhibited are rare, or whether they are ordinary. There is always somebody who will be pleased and profited. This gives us an almost unlimited scope of activity. The man who has engaged in some special research may find his specimens appreciated by those who understand them, while one who brings with him a series of hearts or kidneys or a dozen microscopic objects forming a demonstration, will be equally appreciated by others.

The titles and the names of distinction on our present program promise much profit and enjoyment from these meetings. The thanks of the Section are certainly owing to our secretary, whose energy and wide acquaintance have enabled him to prepare it. The secretaryship carries with it little of honor compared to the onus of correspondence and responsibility it entails.

Let us ever bring the best products of our labors to the American Medical Association; let us wisely distribute our papers for our own and the general good, and while we remain a unit as a section on experimental medicine, let us also remain a power for progress in those other sections, with whose work we are so closely identified and where our advice and experience may be valuable.

THE DEMANDS OF THE CHILD BY VIRTUE OF RIGHT.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE SECTION ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN, AT THE FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, AT ATLANTIC CITY, JUNE 7-10, 1904.

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Among mammals, animals of the higher development, helplessness and dependence characterize the state of the young. The duration of the dependence varies with the different types of animal. Until able to care for itself the young mammal's wants are supplied by those responsible for its existence—a duty which is instinctively assumed. For the growth and development of mammals, of which man is the highest type, there must be means of nutrition, and surroundings suitable to the habits of the animal—conditions ordained by Nature, which, when not followed out, invariably produce inferior growth and physical degeneration.

The man who breeds a horse for the track, a horse to excel in intelligence and speed, one sound in body and of great endurance, the horse which is to win the Suburban, begins during the animal's fetal life to prepare him for the future. The first step is the proper care of the mother. From birth until ready for work the young animal is under constant supervision. He receives food best suited for the utmost development of the qualities desired. Cleanliness in surroundings, protection from inclement weather, and a carefully regulated system of exercise are constantly afforded. In the rearing of cattle, sheep and swine the natural requirements of the growing animal are most carefully supplied; for it has

been learned that only by such care can the highest type of adult be produced.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington and the state experimental stations issue for gratuitous distribution pamphlets and books bearing on the rearing of animals. The advantages accorded the lower animals because they have a value in dollars and cents is certainly a reasonable demand of the child.

The child is a young animal, so far as physical characteristics are concerned. In his work on "Education," Herbert Spencer remarks that the first requisite for success in life is to be a good animal; and to be a nation of good animals is the first condition of national prosperity.

In order that a vigorous adult may be produced, suitable nutrition, plenty of fresh air and cleanliness are absolutely necessary for the child. In his daily life there must be an absence of worry and anxiety, an absence, to a great degree, of responsibility, an absence of work of an exhausting nature until the adult period is reached. The child should make its first year's growth and development during the first year, its second year's growth and development during the second year, and the third, fourth and fifth, and later years of growth and development during those years. In order to make the best adult both physically and mentally, every year of the growing period must supply its quota of physical and mental development. The child will never do its first or second year's growing satisfactorily during its fifth or sixth year, nor its fifth or sixth year's growing during its tenth or twelfth year. Protracted faulty nutrition, overwork at school, employment of an arduous nature in mines, stores or factories during the developing period leave their indelible stamp on the adult, as evidenced by stunted growth, lack of endurance, lack of resistance to disease, lack of capacity for work, together with the absence of a high order of mental capacity and moral force, a condition so often found in the weakly.

Assuming that the object of a national existence is the creation and preservation of a fine stock of mankind, a review of the state's methods—of our methods, as we, the people, constitute the state—will make our shortcomings most apparent.

Instinct directs the lower animals as to the proper selection of food, not only for themselves but for their young. Instinct tells the higher animal, Man, very little. Every day of our lives, in private work among the well-to-do, and in children's clinics among the poor, we are brought face to face with the most dense ignorance relating to the most important feature of the management of a child—his nutrition. If man is wanting in the instincts, he possesses reasoning faculties, and is capable of being taught what his offspring has a right to demand. The physician must teach him.

Among the thousands of children which we have treated at the Outpatient Department of the Babies' Hospital, and at the New York Polyclinic Dispensary, but 20 per cent. of those over one year of age are of normal development, and of those under one year of age 35 per cent. are normal. These children are the offspring on the father's side of day laborers, drivers, waiters, and small wage-earners generally. The mother is a young woman of the same class and possesses considerable intelligence. She can read; she can write her name. She is familiar with the current topics of the day. She attended the public schools.

An intimate insight into the daily life of these people, such as the writer has had, will demonstrate that the large percentage of malnutrition among the young is