

state society or the Association. The number of members actually affected in this manner will be very small compared with the total membership of the Association. If it can be arranged that they shall continue in good standing and that the new requirements will apply only to persons who do not already hold permanent membership in the Association or in a state society, it will make the adoption of the new requirements more certain in some state societies and prevent a feeling of grievance on the part of some old and highly honored members. Such feeling of grievance, we can not but admit, would have a very substantial basis.

May it not then be wise to add to the clause affecting membership acquired through membership in the county societies a "saving clause," to this effect: "Provided, that the operation of this condition of membership shall apply only to new members and shall in no instance be so construed as to forfeit an existing, legally acquired membership in the Association." It will thus be made perfectly evident that it is the intention of the Reorganization Committee to thoroughly and effectually safeguard the privileges of all. Very respectfully,

WILLIAM P. MUNN, M.D.

A Physician's Directory.

LAWRENCE, MASS., Feb. 3, 1902.

To the Editor:—I am of the opinion that a step in the right direction may be taken by establishing a system of registration followed by the publication of a "Physician's Directory" by the American Medical Association. The great danger to the medical profession is not from the quack or the promoter of a fad, but from him who has obtained a medical degree, secured a state license, perhaps has been admitted to the state society, and has been unable morally to keep up with the respectable members of the profession. Such an individual sooner or later is found out and can be easily cared for. The great majority of immoral and ignorant of those who have received medical degrees and state license do not seek admission to societies because they fear the required examination and the discussion of medical topics by regular physicians. This class, I believe, constitutes a majority of cheap contract physicians. They lower the standard and prostitute the title of Doctor of Medicine. The "quack" is recognized and classified by the people. The harm comes from him who has some right to the title of doctor other than a clear and moral right. Registration and an honest directory would do much to lessen the evil.

This would be a preliminary toward the establishment of a National Board of Health, which could in time demand a place in the cabinet for its representative. If that could be consummated a standard could be set and maintained and the question of reciprocity solved. Furthermore, an American Medical Education Society might be formed to enlighten the American Humane Education Society on some topics, and when they understand each other they could do much for humanity, because the Humane Society is an aggressive, active organization, and does much good within certain circumscribed limits. If a Medical Society had half its spirit and pugnacity it would soon make the title of Doctor of Medicine respected, and not, as it is now, a hollow mockery. Very truly yours,

JOHN T. CAHILL.

Inhalation and Atomization.

CHICAGO, Feb. 17, 1902.

To the Editor:—On page 474 of THE JOURNAL of February 15, it is stated that "It is yet a question as to how much of the respiratory tract is reached by inhalations." I am surprised that the writer of the above is ignorant of the experimental work that I have done in this line. It is now positively proven that nebulized medicaments reach the pulmonary alveoli of the human lung, of the lung of dogs and of guinea-pigs. The microscopic slides which are the proof of this contention and statement are in my possession, and unquestionably prove the truth of this assertion. As far back as May 28, 1898, THE JOURNAL published an article by me on "Experimental Work

on the Penetrability of Vaporized Medicaments into the Air Passages." This proved the existence of nebulized medicaments in the lung of a human being. Since then much experimental work has been done that demonstrated the presence of nebulized medicaments in the pulmonary alveoli of dogs and guinea-pigs.

On April 12, 1897, I presented the subject before the Chicago Pathological Society, and in 1900 before the Chicago Academy of Medicine, and at both times exhibited microscopic slides to demonstrate the truth of the assertion.

In view of the foregoing, I claim that it is definitely proven that nebulized medicaments properly subdivided and administered do reach the pulmonary alveoli. I am quite aware that this statement is at variance with those found in the older books upon this subject, but such former statements can not stand as true in the light of the microscopic demonstration of the fact that they do reach the pulmonary alveoli.

HOMER M. THOMAS, M.D.

The Proper Method of Vaccination.

SCHAEFFERTOWN, PA., Feb. 14, 1902.

To the Editor:—To a great many physicians a sore arm after vaccination signifies immunity, regardless of the nature of the soreness. A proper vaccination is attended with slight, or no, local or constitutional disturbances. The extreme local and constitutional disturbances, such as erysipelas, hospital gangrene, abscess, phlegmon, septicemia, pyemia, and tetanus, are due to an abrasion of the surface, admitting the entrance of the different bacteria. In my opinion the proper way to vaccinate is by means of a spring lancet, which leaves no open wound for the introduction of germs. It requires very little lymph to produce a proper vaccinia, one capillary tube being sufficient to produce half a dozen. The puncture made by the lancet is barely discernible, and leaves no abraded surface for any sort of exterior infection.

During the epidemic of 1874-75, I vaccinated, by means of the lancet, over eight hundred people of all ages—primary and secondary—and not one manifested any serious local or constitutional trouble. During the present epidemic this method has given the same satisfactory results, while those who employed the scalpel, or the needle, with the same environment and using the same lymph, have had many complications. Hence it is again to be inferred that the faulty method of operation and not the lymph employed is responsible for the sufferings and deaths due to vaccination. I wish to emphasize the erroneous technique of an abrasion by scraping, or almost cutting, of the arm; producing a good culture-medium for germs not intended. With the spring lancet, no untoward effects will ensue.

J. W. KEATH, M.D.

Married.

JOSEPH E. HAILE, M.D., to Miss Mae Hayes, both of Kershaw, S. C., January 29.

WILLIAM F. C. HEISE, M.D., to Miss Adella von Rohr, both of Winona, Minn., February 5.

C. K. CARRUTHERS, JR., M.D., to Miss Ethelene Rowell, both of Pine Bluff, Ark., February 9.

J. RAY ALLEN, M.D., Orwell, N. Y., to Miss Ethel J. Barney, at Sandy Creek, N. Y., January 30.

SAMUEL B. POTTER, M.D., to Mrs. Sarah E. Peoples, both of Fredericktown, Ohio, January 30.

JAMES P. TUCKER, M.D., Galveston, Texas, to Miss Thelma Cooper, at Waco, Texas, January 29.

NICHOLAS C. PARRISH, M.D., Denison, Texas, to Miss Emma Ryle, at Pilot Point, Texas, January 28.

WILLIAM T. DOWDALL, M.D., Cosner, Ill., to Miss Anna Conole, of Carrollton, at Jacksonville, February 8.

ROY S. BARNSBACK, M.D., Edwardsville, Ill., to Miss Minnie E. Whitbread, at Edwardsville, Ill., February 1.

ALFRED S. JAEGER, M.D., Indianapolis, Ind., to Miss Blanche C. Keiffer, of Bronson, Mich., at Indianapolis, February 5.