but was prevented from doing so by the quarantine officials. A temporary injunction was obtained from Judge Lacombe, restraining them from interfering with such inspection, and subsequently Judge Thomas, in the United States District Court, Brooklyn, issued an order directing the health officer of the port to show cause on December 2 why the injunction should not be made permanent.

FOOD ADULTERATION.—The food adulteration investigation which has recently been conducted in New York (see JOURNAL, November 25, p. 1369) was concluded on November 24, and in bringing the examination to an end Senator Mason, the chairman of the committee, expressed his opinion that its work will lead to such an establishment of public sentiment that a national law will be passed which will at least accomplish the following three things: 1. To prohibit the importation into this country of articles manufactured abroad, the sale of which is prohibited in the country of manufacture. 2. To prohibit the use of deleterious adulterations. 3. When adulterants are used to cheapen, which results in deceiving the purchaser, the law will go as far as possible to compel the manufacturer and dealer to mark the package for what it actually is.

ILLINOIS MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT.—An interpretation of the Medical Practice Act has been made by Judge Tuthill, Chicago, relative to the issuance of an injunction to restrain the Illinois State Board of Health from proceeding further in the steps taken to revoke the certificate of Dr. W. F. Ross, Champaign, Ill., who was summoned before the Board to answer charges of unprofessional conduct made against him, as noted in the JOURNAL. The court holds that the State Board of Health has no authority to inquire into the actions of physicians who received certificates entitling them to practice medicine in the state prior to the passage of the Act of 1899, which went into effect July 1. The clause in the Act of 1899 in effect reads the same as that in the Act of 1887, which repealed the Act of 1877, the Board being authorized to revoke the certificates provided for in the respective Acts. As this ruling is at variance with an opinion rendered by the attorney-general, the matter will be carried to the supreme court for final decision.

OSTEOPATHY IN KENTUCKY.—The Kentucky State Board of Health has scored another victory in the local courts against the osteopaths, by decision of Judge Toney, rendered in a suit brought by one Nelson, an osteopath, who has made an application for a restraining order against the defendant, the State Board of Health, and a mandamus to compel the defendant to recognize a diploma which he holds from the American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo. The judge refused both the mandamus and the injunction. In handing down his decision he said that the Kentucky statutes are very plain as to who shall practice medicine in the state, and that they require the practitioner to hold a diploma from a reputable medical college. The American School of Osteopathy is not, under the strict construction of the statutes, a reputable medical college. "The word reputable," said the judge, "has a very different meaning when applied to medical colleges, from its meaning when applied to individuals. In respect to individuals it has reference to their moral character, but when applied to medical colleges it has reference to that college's courses and to the qualifications of its faculty. In Kentucky the word 'reputable' is a synonym of the term 'good standing,' as prescribed by the statutes of other

states." He further stated that a committee of three, composed of Drs. Geo. W. Griffiths, J. M. Bodine, and H. A. Cottell, Louisville, had made a thorough investigation of the Kirksville institution, and had reported that it is not a reputable college under the strict construction of the Kentucky statutes, and that Harry Nelson, the plaintiff in this action, is not, under the ruling of the State Board of Health, which Judge Toney said was the proper tribunal to decide such matters, properly qualified to practice medicine in the state. An appeal will be taken.

Correspondence.

Exhibits at the Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NOV. 11, 1899.

To the Editor:—In bringing to the attention of the readers of the JOURNAL a subject which I have in view, I am obliged to briefly mention some facts that will be in the nature of state news to many. I refer to the Pathological Department of the Indiana State Medical Society. It has already received such favorable editorial mention that we feel its introduction to the profession of the country has been quite general. The cordial reception of this unique departure in society work has been most gratifying to its promoters.

The movement began in 1897, when an appeal was made to the members of the Indiana State Medical Society for pathologic specimens. At each annual meeting since, an exhibit has been made of the specimens contributed. The collection numbered about 200 in 1898, and almost 800 in 1899. It represented a wide range of material, much of it exceedingly valuable. Besides gross pathologic specimens, photographs, etc., it included practical bacteriologic demonstrations, such as the Widal test, guinea-pig and culture experiments, which presented tangible proofs of the important relationship between bacteriology and diagnosis, as well as its bearing on all surgical and sanitary procedures, the distinctive and prominent feature of the exhibit being pathologic anatomy.

The exhibit was not placed on the shelves to be viewed in a casual manner by visitors, but small groups were taken the rounds in charge of a competent demonstrator, who called their attention to the salient features of each specimen. By this means the fullest possible benefit was derived from the collection, and great enthusiasm was aroused.

The sole compensation of the committee has been the cordial endorsement of the profession. The state society manifested its approval by appropriating \$300 to take the collection to the Columbus meeting of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. It is worthy of remark that it was the only exhibit at that meeting, which was purely scientific in character and not prompted by a commercial motive, and it is gratifying to know that the Executive Committee of the ASSOCIATION has in contemplation the establishment of exhibits wholly free from commercialism. If the movement started in a modest way in our own state is to assume national proportions, we naturally feel interested and, speaking from experience, may be able to contribute a mite toward the furtherance of this laudable enterprise.

The first query is: "Would a pathologic exhibit in connection with the meetings of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION be practicable?" Most assuredly, under proper restrictions and direction. If the details of the undertaking, such as the solicitation of specimens, their reception, preservation and presentation, be left entirely to a national committee, the attempt will come to naught. Such efforts would be at too long range to prove effective. Donations will be more likely to come through the appeals of local pathologic workers, than by general solicitation from a national committee. Systematic procedure will be necessary if specimens in numbers and of value are obtained. The working unit in the furtherance of this project, should be the state medical society. Each state organization should have a department of pathology, with a young man of ability and tireless energy for chairman. Let him get together even a small exhibit for the next annual meeting, and the commendatory approval of the work by his con-

frères will stimulate him to double zeal for the succeeding year. In three years he may be able to duplicate the work accomplished by the Indiana State Medical Society in the same period. He must expect considerable personal sacrifice and a large amount of thankless labor. His reward will come in a gratifying professional prestige.

Both expense and labor would make it impracticable and inadvisable to take the various state collections to the national meeting. Should each state organization get together a collection even one-third the size of the Indiana exhibit, the expense and labor of transportation would be so great that few would undertake it. Besides, there would be much duplication and considerable inferior material would be taken. The national exhibit would become too bulky to manage successfully. Hence a "sifting" process is advisable before transportation. By having a committee select a limited number of choice specimens, ten to fifty, according to the population of the state, they could, in most cases, be packed in a large trunk and checked through as baggage on a railroad ticket—thus making the expense very light. By limiting each state to a given quota, the "cream" of the collections would be obtained and trashy material eliminated. As a rule, no specimen should be taken to the national exhibit which did not possess distinctive merit and was thoroughly worked up—that is to say, accompanied by clinical history, photographs, microscopic sections or other evidence of study.

In the discussion of this subject, the question is naturally suggested as to the advisability of establishing a section on pathology, for the national association. Most certainly it should be done. Conducted as in the British Medical Association, its work would represent carefully prepared papers and reports of pathologic investigations. The membership of the section would be small, probably limited to specialists in that particular field. It is likely also, that very little general interest would be aroused by the section work, among those attending the sessions of the ASSOCIATION. The scope of influence would be greatly widened and rendered vastly more effective, if, combined with the special section work, was inaugurated a practical demonstration department—a pathologic exhibit. Let it be the work of the section to bring about a confederation of the various state exhibits. The supervision of the national exhibit would naturally fall to the officers of the section. It would be their duty to see to it that the exhibit was made attractive and instructive. That is to say, not only should the specimens be placed on shelves and properly labelled, but competent demonstrators should be at hand to answer questions and bring out the points of interest in connection with each specimen. They should devise ways and means of stimulating practical pathologic work among members of the ASSOCIATION. Prizes might be offered, say one for the best state exhibit, another for the best individual specimen and the third to the person presenting the greatest evidence of thorough or original investigation.

Such a pathologic exhibit would appeal to every visitor, as practical, interesting and instructive. It would prove a most potent educational factor to the rank and file of the ASSOCIATION members. That is not the fanciful assertion of an individual. It is the enthusiastic sentiment of the members of the Indiana State Medical Society, after three years experience with a pathologic exhibit. Practitioners everywhere would be stimulated to make post-mortem examinations. Many valuable specimens and cases would come to the notice of scientific medicine, which would otherwise be lost. A much greater benefit would accrue to practitioners themselves, in the practical pathologic knowledge gained. There would arise a proper conception of the important relationship between practical pathology and skillful diagnosis.

Another great benefit to be reckoned as a result of the movement, if carried on successfully for a few years, would be the growth of a museum of pathology—a lasting monument of the society's work. This may seem to the reader a rosy picture. Let us see the ground on which such a prediction may be made. Suppose that within the next three years the fifty state and territorial associations accumulated exhibits, averaging two hundred specimens each—less than one-third of what the Indiana society has accomplished in the same period. This would give ten thousand specimens on which to draw for the national exhibit. In ten years' time the result might easily

surpass the wonderful collections of Rokitsansky or Virchow. A permanent habitation would be necessary for the collection in a few years, but that is a matter which the growing wealth of the ASSOCIATION would easily manage.

In seeking to inaugurate a pathologic exhibit, the executive officers of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION should receive the enthusiastic support of every member of the organization. Start the movement at once! Have an exhibit at Atlantic City next year, even if it is a small one! Let us have a wholesome digression from the selfish commercial exhibits! In conclusion, let me say that Indiana, as the pioneer in this field, stands ready to meet the requirement put on her by the national body.

Respectfully,
FRANK B. WYNN, M.D.

New York City.

ASSEMBLYMAN MAZET has succeeded in securing the conviction of a merchant who sold oleomargarin for butter. He had to pay a fine of \$150.

A EUCHRE party—of 400 tables—was held at the Knapp Mansion, Borough of Brooklyn, in aid of St. Catherine's Hospital, recently, over \$1000 being realized.

DR. ALVAH H. DOTY, health officer, has returned from his tour of inspection of European ports, the object of his trip being to familiarize himself with the methods of inspecting and transporting those intending to come to this port.

FOR TWO years past the directors of the Montefiore Home have maintained, as an experiment, a home for poor consumptives at Bedford Station, Westchester County. It has proved so successful that it has been decided to erect a sanitarium at that place, to cost \$150,000.

A CONCERT was given last Saturday at the Metropolitan Opera House in the aid of St. Mark's Hospital, at which Mme. Galski offered her services, and made her first appearance this season. Others who took part were Mlle. Elsa Ruegger, George Hamlin, Frank King Clark, and the child pianist, Frieda Siemens.

ALTHOUGH, according to the present regulations, army transports are not allowed to carry officers' wives, Major Guy Henry Preston, of the 41st Vol. Inf., which sailed from this port for the Philippines, November 20, was accompanied by his wife. She accomplished this by enlisting as an army nurse, on account of her training in nursing.

THIS WEEK is a notable one in the annals of hospitals, for three days are to be devoted to a celebration of the golden jubilee of St. Vincent's Hospital, which was established by the Sisters of Charity, in 1849. It was the first private hospital in New York supported by voluntary contributions, the only other hospitals then in existence being Bellevue and the New York.

TRANSVAAL ASSISTANCE.

The last of the American complement for the hospital ship *Maine*, consisting of sixteen male nurses from the Mills Training School, ten orderlies and two apothecaries, has left for England. Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, with the assistance of Drs. McCosh, Billings and McBurney, personally selected the nurses for this work. The party was in charge of Dr. Thomas Wood Hastings, recently on the staff of the Presbyterian Hospital, and a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University.

CARE OF CHILDREN.

The Charity Organization Society reports that within a year it has kept over four hundred children in their own families who would otherwise have been committed to institutions. During the past year it has cared for 2995 new families, has investigated 5185 cases for other societies and individuals, has advised and directed over 10,000 persons, has obtained permanent employment for 458 persons, and temporary work 1287 times for persons who would otherwise have required relief. Its aim is to reduce charity to scientific principles, and to insure help that does not hurt.

A HOSPITAL SWINDLER.

A man, calling himself George Gray, seems to take delight in going around from one hospital to another and endeavoring to deceive the physicians and so secure free board for a time. Incidentally he steals medical books if a suitable opportunity