

in a professional capacity, and which was necessary to enable him to act in that capacity; unless, where the patient is a child under the age of 16, the information so acquired indicates that the patient has been the victim or subject of a crime, in which case the physician or nurses may be required to testify fully thereto on any examination, trial or other proceeding in which the commission of such crime is a subject of inquiry. Nothing in this act contained shall affect any actions or proceedings now pending. This shall take effect September 1, 1905.

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AID TO PROGNOSIS IN TYPHOID.—The *Journal of the American Medical Association*, quoting from the *British Medical Journal*, says: "For the last nine years Simon has made daily observations of the amount of urine passed by every patient suffering from enteric fever. He found that polyuria occurred not only in every case that was doing well, but also in many cases of great severity in which no general improvement or amelioration of symptoms could be observed. He also found that even in severe cases, if polyuria occurred, the patients all recovered. In no cases in which polyuria was noted has he known perforation to occur, and in no case has hemorrhage of any moment ever occurred after polyuria had been established. Furthermore, relapses occurred only rarely when polyuria had once begun."

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THE SYSTEM OF AMERICAN HOSPITAL ECONOMY.—Arpad G. Gerster, in discussing this subject in the *Medical Record*, compares the daily cost per patient in different hospitals in this country and in Europe, the result showing that in America the outlay is much greater. These facts serve as arguments in favor of the view that in order to meet successfully the conditions now existing when the large hospitals usually show an annual deficit, retrenchment is the proper remedy, and not an appeal for greater liberality on the part of the comparatively few philanthropists, who furnish most of the funds for the hospitals. Analyzing the conditions which underlie the extravagance and waste in hospital management in this country, he emphasizes the necessity for more active participation in the executive control by the members of the medical staff.