Fournier considers jaundice an unusual symptom. Henoch¹⁰ considers both icterus and ascites rare with syphilitic hepatitis. Beside the irregular enlargement of the liver, the spleen is usually somewhat enlarged, and albuminuria points to some renal involvement. Baginsky⁹ reports the case of a boy of 4 with keratitis, followed later by swelling of the left lobe of the liver with ascites, slight icterus and hematemesis. In most textbooks the subject of hepatic affections in hereditary syphilis receives but scant attention. Osler,¹¹ Holt and Gerhardt¹² mention the occurrence of gummata of the liver in late hereditary syphilis; Comby¹³ notes the occurrence of diffuse interstitial hepatitis with gummata, ascites and pain.

The diagnosis is not difficult when other characteristic signs of hereditary syphilis are present. Yet, as Edsall states, these cases are generally mistaken for malignant growths of the liver. Fournier believes that many cases of gummata of the liver escape attention because they usually run a symptomless course. Edsall also refers to the possibility of calling the condition leukemia or splenic anemia. Henoch, in his large experience, has never seen a case of late hereditary syphilis. He believes that many of the cases described by Barthélemy were simply chronic interstitial hepatitis from some other cause. This is evidently not the case, however, as the existence of this condition has been proved by pathologic examination. Engel calls attention to the predominance of the female sex among the few cases of late syphilis of the liver reported, in all less than 50, including the cases both of diffuse interstitial and gummatous hepatitis, as manifestations of late hereditary syphilis.

It is, of course, possible in this case that the syphilitic affection may have been acquired and not congenital. But the family history is so decidedly typical and the possibility of the early symptoms having passed unperceived so perfectly probable that it seems unnecessary to search for further explanation. The presence of the distinctly palpable node on the surface of the liver also excludes simple hypertrophic cirrhosis, for which, besides, there was no known cause. Though such cases are rare, they probably occur more frequently than is commonly supposed, passing unperceived or being mistaken for malignant growths of the liver. From the standpoint both of diagnosis and treatment these cases are most important, since, even though syphilis only be suspected, specific treatment deserves a trial and may effect a cure.

My thanks are due to Dr. J. P. Crozer Griffith for the privilege of reporting this case. The patient was under treatment on his service last summer during his absence from the city.

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DISCUSSION.

DR. R. B. GILBERT, Louisville, Ky.—Late syphilis of the liver is certainly very rare; I can only recall two cases in my experience, and these were rather recent. The first of these cases was very much like the one reported in the paper. It occurred in a girl of 5 years, and the ascites was enormous and proved most rebellious to treatment. After some hesitation I tapped the child and took away a little over one gallon of fluid. After this medicine seemed to have some effect, but the fluid accumulated again very rapidly, necessitating another tapping in about ten days. After this she improved steadily, and under mercury and iodid of potassium was restored to full health. The other case was a female infant of 18 months, with an abdomen so enormously distended that breathing was greatly impeded. I drew off from this child over one quart of fluid with great relief to the little one. This was only a few days ago, but I expect a good result. The paper has greatly interested me because several clinicians criticised me severely in connection with my first case, and advised against any radical or heroic treatment.

DR. C. F. WAHRER, Fort Madison, Iowa—I often wonder how much hereditary syphilis complicates many of the diseases of childhood or masquerades under the guise of some other disease. I have felt that when in doubt mercury or iodid of potassium, or both, should be given.

Some time ago I was called to a little girl of 4 years who was supposed to be in danger of dying. I examined the child and found a weakness of the heart, but none of the classical symptoms of any special variety of organic disease. The child had had none of the diseases usually causing disease of the heart, yet the heart muscle was weak and the innervation of the heart appeared to be disturbed. I privately inquired into the previous history of the patient, but obtained no information. I was subsequently called to see two other children in the same family who were similarly affected. Finally the mother came to me to be treated for syphilis, and then she told me that her husband had contracted syphilis some years before, and had been improperly treated. I then learned that two of her children had presented evidences of syphilis and had died very suddenly after birth. I accordingly put the whole family under treatment, and three years later the mother gave birth to a child, who now, at the age of 8 years, appears to be perfectly free from syphilitic taint. Since this medication the other children have had no more attacks of heart trouble.

IS THE REALIZATION OF REASONABLE IDEALS IN DENTAL EDUCATION NEAR AT HAND?*

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Reasonable ideals in dental education would seem to be defined by those standards as yet unattained and not yet in practical working, but which are admittedly possible and desirable in the estimation of the leading dental teachers, practitioners and examiners of this and foreign countries as expressed and promulgated by them personally and in the councils of the great national and international organizations. In no other country in the world is dentistry esteemed so truly a separate and distinct science and profession as in the United States of America.

Most of our schools are independent of and free from domination by the medical profession and medical schools, which is a condition not at all to be found in the schools of Europe, where our beloved profession is held as a mechanical art tacked onto a background of medical didactics.

* Read at the Fifty-fourth Annual Session of the American Medical Association, in the Section on Stomatology, and approved for publication by the Executive Committee: Drs. M. L. Rhein, M. H. Fletcher and Wm. E. Walker.

Every enthusiastic lover of his profession probably has formed an ideal for himself, or for some one in whom he is interested, which should represent the summing up of his dream of educational perfection in dentistry, but the chief difficulty in the way of the general adoption of these ideals is, that they are as various as they are ideal. One man will urge that an academic degree is of main importance, preparatory to the study of dentistry at all, while another will insist that beyond the simplest of common school preparation the wisest educational prerequisite for dental college is found in a term of pupilage in the office of a successful practitioner where the study of text-books is a mere incident and the education is conducted on the principle carried out by the celebrated Mr. Squeers at Do-the-boys Hall, England, *i. e.*, teaching spelling as follows: "w-i-n win, d-e-r der, winner. Go and wash it."

And then there are all the intervening ideals that can be thought of, as wide in variation of detail and almost as numerous as the personnel composing the dental profession, and it will not be denied that there is fully as great a percentage of dreamers, cranks and would-be prophets and leaders among us as is to be found in any other calling. It is out of the multitude of counsel, based on actual experience and effort, that reasonable standards can be evolved. The educators and examiners have been each and all striving for wise standards, that will fill the educational ideals for some years to come, and also be practicable and attainable as a general fair minimum requirement by all educational institutions worthy the name. The dental literature for the past several years has overwhelmingly pointed to high school graduation and four years of special dental training as the minimum place where standards could be with safety set up and permanently established. The variations in standards for high school in different portions of our country are great. Indeed in some states having dental schools there is practically no established high school worthy the name. But like all other commodities schools accommodate their curriculum to the demand, and, at any rate, equivalents can be easily and fairly set up through the system of preliminary examination now in operation under the rules of the two national associations of faculties and examiners, so that the decision as to what is a reasonable requirement in high school graduation can be very easily attained. And even where there are elective high school courses to be had, it is but a matter of detail to elect and maintain a reasonable equivalent. The college course has been advanced for several years to three years for graduation, and the addition of the fourth year to the curriculum which is to be inaugurated in the present year in all our schools completes what may be properly denominated reasonable ideals in dental educational standards.

If all the schools composing the N. A. D. F. were departments of properly endowed universities, and thus relieved of the everlasting commercial handicap, there would be no question as to the immediate establishment of reasonable ideals. But the fact obtains that a large majority of them are practically struggling for existence and feel they can not be too particular in their standards.

Having fairly determined what should be demanded and established in standards the question arises, who shall establish and be responsible for the carrying out of these standards? The answer is, the colleges through their national associations and the examiners standing behind, protecting, insisting and encouraging by the official authority that is in them vested. This being

accepted as the proper method, all obstacles that beset the path and intercept the attainment of the goal must be squarely faced, with the view to most directly overcome them or pass around them in the onward course. The men to be convinced and enlisted and the means, the employment of which will most likely and directly conduce to the ends sought, are important. What is the power that must be invoked?

For over forty years dental schools have been pursuing their steady growth in size of classes and in numbers without there having been set up a single fixed minimum educational requirement for beginning a school course that could be in any sense claimed to be an established prerequisite. The demand for skilled practitioners was so great during the period of phenomenal growth and development of this great country following the close of the Civil War that perhaps it was as well that this should have been so, but to-day the demand is not so much for mere artisans as for educated, scientific, professional—gentlemen, if you please—who shall be competent to take the helm and guide the destinies of a great profession that is more nearly an exact science than any other, except it be, perhaps, the law.

Attempts at the raising of requirements have been continuous, and the past five years have seen the establishment of two years' high school preparation, and the present year inaugurates the four year course. This advance up to date, in spite of the prediction of the pessimists and conservatists that putting up the bars would financially ruin the smaller schools, has been followed by an era of unprecedented prosperity to the schools, and when it has been honestly enforced the quality and character of the college output has been in the main materially improved.

The universities have been held back for years, hoping by slowly raising the educational requirements to enable the weaker schools to keep pace and so hold the national body together. It would seem that this has proved a mistaken policy, for the proceedings of the national association of colleges are filled with charges and trials, convictions and fines against school after school for the violation of the plain rules of the body as regards the receiving and giving standing to students taken into their classes, with no other earthly object apparent than to swell the income of the struggling institutions. This is, of course, human nature, but it is none the less scandalous, notorious and disreputable in the highest degree and should be branded with the condemnation of the profession at large.

A case in point of what is constantly going forward in the effort to swell classes at whatever risk (and the half of which is never brought to light) is that of an endowed university which was compelled to refuse admittance to its classes the present year to about thirty matriculants because they did not possess the prerequisite education for admission to the third year of high school, as required by the rules of the two national associations. These men applied elsewhere, and most of them, it is believed, are now enrolled in the classes of other schools belonging to the association.

Another instance is that where one school sought (and did in some degree succeed in its undertaking) to swell its own classes by sending out emissaries, cappers, or steerers, offering in wholesale lots to almost the entire classes of a competing school reduced tuition rates varying from \$25 to \$65 for the \$115 advertised tuition fees.

Another instance of flagrant attempts on the part of schools in the full membership in the N. A. D. F. to

evade the rules is where one of them, by the admission of its dean, has taken into its freshman class for regular work a number of matriculants who had signally failed to pass the preliminary examination (set up by the national association as its minimum standard for admission to classes) before the duly accredited appointee of the state superintendent of public instruction, and then attempting to build up some sort of excuse for its conduct by not only attacking the educational fitness of the examiner, who, by the way, is the honored principal of a district school in a large and flourishing northern city, but also by attacking publicly his character as an honest man and public servant, and thus attempting to excuse itself for having these men in its classes at all, even under the name of "specials" and "in our preparatory classes, besides doing regular freshman work." And this school is evidently banking on being able to control enough "influence" in the national association to cover up or else explain away its conduct or, at the most, escape with a "fine," as though payment of money could in any sense atone for the violation of the law of common honesty.

There is also the lamentable spectacle of schools posing as the very "ideal" of everything desirable and whose official heads are shocked and hurt at the mere suggestion that any one should presume to criticise them or question their reputability, that are constantly and persistently flooding the secular press of the country with paid pictorial advertisements of their classes, football teams, handsome, noted and extra-skilled teachers and instructors, exploiting the peculiar advantages of the institution and its professors over all competitors, all done in a style to put to the blush the common advertisers of the cheap "dental parlors" type.

Such things unchallenged and unrebuked certainly do not tend to the realization of ideals and most certainly do not offer incentives to enter our profession to the class of young men our profession most lacks. This is the sort of thing which has always stood in the way of the proper establishment and maintenance of ideal standards. It would seem if we are to establish ideals for practical use that the public stamp of condemnation should be put on such practices and the guilty institutions incontinently thrown out of the national organization and made a public example of.

It is futile for this body, composed of the membership of the "reputable" colleges of this country, to adopt for the government and conduct of its members certain rules and standards and methods of procedure based on high ideals of ethics and mutual protection, to be accepted by the profession at large as a criticism of the schools' reputability, and then devote a large part of its annual sessions to inventing excuses and apologies for flagrant and open violation of the letter or spirit, or both, of these standards and rules, thus giving to the outside world the very reasonable impression that the body is dominated by anything but the real spirit of building up ideals that their rules and standards would indicate. It is high time that the college association awaken to the realities of the situation. There is at this time, as a result of years of struggle and contention between schools and the examiners for the establishment of specific standards, accepted by the schools and made by the boards their measure of reputability—there is now, I say, a period of mutual accord and trust and peace between these bodies which should be the harbinger of better things to come. The schools are assured of protection by the boards from any infringement and violation by competing schools, made and provided that

the college association will purge itself of the violators and enforce its own rules without fear or favor.

In order that ideals may be sooner and more surely established and maintained the boards of examiners, with all fairness and reasonable consideration for the interests of honest educational efforts, must, nevertheless, be mindful of their official oath to carry out not only the letter but also the spirit and intent of the law for the protection of the public. They must, in national association, stand squarely together on reasonable requirements and, more than all else, have the courage of their convictions in passing on the character of the colleges and their output, constantly having in mind that the goddess Justice does not close one eye and blink the other when on duty.

If the schools will rise to the occasion and set the pace the examiners will most assuredly help and sustain them in holding it steadily up. If N. A. D. F. will not purge itself and be honest in enforcing its rules there will be but one way to move the profession forward, to-wit, the better and honest schools will naturally unite themselves together and the examiners must join them in a newer and higher emprise on a surer and, it is to be hoped, better laid foundation.

DISCUSSION.

DR. EUGENE S. TALBOT, Chicago—There is perhaps no one in the country so well posted on the management of dental colleges as the essayist. He is one of the foremost men who has been looking forward to the future of dentistry and has done a great deal in the way of legislation. He would have been here at this meeting but for the fact that the legislature is now in session and changes are being brought about in the state law in Wisconsin. He wished me to extend his thanks to the Association for its courtesy in having his paper read and regrets that he could not be present.

There is no doubt that there is a good deal of underhand work going on in some dental colleges. I know of three or four dental schools in which agents are sent out soliciting students. A percentage is paid these agents for procuring the students. There are many other glaring deficiencies in the methods of obtaining students. I was somewhat surprised that more was not said along these lines.

I understand it is the intention of the national board to bring this subject before their meeting for the purpose of discussion. I believe the time has arrived when the departments of dentistry connected with universities will have a large influence. Now that the universities have a method for the purpose of uniforming the education in all their departments and also for the purpose of raising the standard of qualification for admission to these different departments, the time is near at hand when the graduate of dentistry in this country will be on an equal standing with the graduates of other specialties.

DR. M. H. FLETCHER, Cincinnati—I do not know that I have much to say, except that I am interested in bringing about a higher standard of dental education. As a member of our State Board of Dental Examiners for five years, I have been greatly chagrined to know that our laws compel examiners to give such elementary questions. I would consider a first-course student in either dentistry or medicine below the standard if he could not pass such an examination. There is every reason, from my standpoint, for extreme effort in raising the standard, and no doubt such men as the essayist and those interested in bringing it about need the co-operation of all good men in this work. I sincerely trust that the day is not far distant when the standard of efficiency may be raised.

DR. M. L. RHEIN, New York—It goes without saying how much we are in sympathy with the elevation of the standard of qualifications for admission to a dental educational school. I feel personally that Dr. Chittenden made his paper a little weaker than he intended when he spoke of the smaller colleges being irretrievably hurt by the length of the course, because I feel very much on this subject as was expressed by Dr. Billings, the President of the Association, in his opening address,

that the time has come when the smaller educational institutions must go out of existence. There is no use for them at the present time. I would even say that I think the idea of proprietary educational institutions is a mistake. I think this Section should come out flat-footed on the question of men enjoying a salaried position due entirely to the income of the institution with which they are connected. That has invariably been one of the worst features connected with proprietary dental education in this country. If the efforts to raise the standard of dental education is a blow at this sort of institution, it is a blow that is well merited and with which, personally, I am in full sympathy, because the sooner they are eradicated and destroyed so much the better for the interests of the country at large. How much better it would be if there were fewer institutions where there was a distinctive salaried position of an amount to enable the proper teacher to be selected irrespective of the necessity of earning their living by the practice of their profession. It is impossible at the present day for the real professor of any branch in a dental institution to be engaged in the active practice of his calling. His attention to practical dentistry should be confined to the infirmity division of the institution with which he is connected. That is the idea we have to look forward to in dental education. It makes little difference to my mind how much we raise the standard, if we fail to accomplish the real results.

There is just one little point of difference that I have with Dr. Chittenden in his paper, that is, the words of criticism that he makes at institutions of character for keeping themselves advertised, as he says, in the eye of the public, advertising their superiority over the smaller institutions. I hardly believe, if I could talk this matter over with Dr. Chittenden, that he would see this in the light in which he appears to, judging from his paper. To my mind, it is one of the forms that is necessary to use to drive out of existence the inferior institution. It is impracticable, in my view, to compare any one of our great institutions with an advertising dental parlor; so, I think, Dr. Chittenden has made rather an unfortunate mistake in a comparison of this kind. These large institutions are constantly before the eyes of the public in the public print. A very necessary form of the education of the young men to-day is the athletic surroundings of the university. There are differences of opinion regarding their value, but at the present time they have the sympathy and the accord of the American people. I myself believe that they play an important part in the welfare of our educational institutions. I believe they do good, and can do harm. Devotion of time to them to the neglect of studies is the same evil which besets every young man in all surroundings of life. A great deal of the advertising of departments of universities is of such a nature as is not directly sought for by these universities. It is worked up by the individual parties, and I personally see no harm in it. I believe this is a sort of competition which will bring out better features from the opposite institutions.

MR. T. CONSTANT, Scarborough, York, England—I have so little knowledge of the condition of education in this country that I am hardly in a position to speak on the subject. At the same time, speaking generally on the question of education, a subject to which I have given some attention, I think the most necessary thing in considering the educational conditions of any kind is to insist on a very high standing of preliminary education. The time that is necessary to give to the application of technical knowledge, when the mind is very receptive, as in the case of medicine and surgery, and especially in dentistry, is so largely devoted to the requirements of special knowledge that one's general knowledge is liable to be neglected. I think, therefore, that prior to examinations of special studies, one's general education should be as complete as possible. I feel that the fewer educational centers we can have the better. The facilities for travel now are such that distances are not the consideration they used to be, so that one great objection to having centers of education is removed. I therefore think that great harm is done, and I believe from my little knowledge, particularly so in this country, by multiplication of centers of education. On the same lines I believe myself in the uniform standard of examinations. I think if all the states of America united and had one national standard in examinations to which it became necessary for every

student to present himself before being licensed to practice it would be a good thing. He could then succeed in taking the ordinary university degrees. License to practice, I believe, should be determined by national examining centers.

DR. W. E. WALKER, New Orleans—I believe the idea of the formation of great universities with dental departments is the correct one, and that the working out of the plan as it is being done in Harvard is really what it ought to come to; that there should be the unification of preliminary requirements for all the different departments instead of having one for medicine and another for dentistry, the basal studies being taken alike by all, and capped by the special work according to the field a man intends to make his life work, though the fingers should have some training throughout.

The question of preliminary requirements is a very difficult one to handle. Because it was found that when the dean examined the students he was so influenced, not only by his desire for the college to grow, but by the forces brought to bear on him by other teachers, that he would sometimes admit students that ought not to be admitted, it was thought to overcome that by the requirement that the dean should no longer examine students for entrance, but that the state or county superintendent of education should have the matter in hand. The law does not specify whether it shall be the superintendent of the county in which the school is located or in which the student resides. The result is that there is a different standard. We find many boys coming from the country where the standards are low and where the county superintendent will allow himself to be influenced by personal feeling and give him a certificate which he would not have received had he come to the educational center to be examined by the superintendent of the county in which the school is located, where the standard would be higher. I have an instance in mind in which a student was examined and refused by the examiner of the county in which the school was located and went home and was passed by the superintendent of the county in which the student resided. There must, therefore, be some changes in that direction. Just how it is to be done I do not know. A national body to examine all applicants would probably work most satisfactorily.

DR. CHITTENDEN*—The only comments I would make in discussion of this paper on educational ideals is as to the object and intent of the paper itself. As you are all aware, I have most excellent opportunities officially to gather correct information concerning what is going on in the dental colleges, some of which is open to criticism and condemnation. It was my desire, in this unofficial way, to acquaint the profession at large with the irregularities, quibbles and sharp practices that are being used and which the schools themselves appear to have the idea are unknown and never to be known by the public. It has seemed to me there has been enough posing and not enough plain honesty of purpose. The paper only hints at a lot of abuses which have, to those watching closely, become offensive, both in practice and frequency of occurrence. It is time the profession at large is fully informed of the situation and given an opportunity to speak out, demanding reformation. The keynote to the condition referred to is, of course, commercialism. There is no question that if honesty could be placed before money interest in the conduct of all the schools for a single year, and standards put where they reasonably belong, that the commercial side of dental education would take care of itself, and financial interests involved be greatly benefited, and it is a great wonder that the educators cannot or will not see this fact. The intent of the paper in detail was to throw some flashlights in silhouette that would bring a quick, sharp understanding of the situation into view, and nothing said in it has been engendered by or intended to convey any sense of bitterness or unfairness to the schools themselves. I have reason to believe the National Association of Dental Faculties will be given an opportunity this summer to squarely meet this situation, and I most devoutly hope and pray, for their own and dental education's sake as well, that they may meet it squarely in the spirit of true professional honesty and singleness of purpose.

* Dr. Chittenden not being present, his paper was read by Dr. W. E. Walker, New Orleans, and these closing remarks by the author have been furnished subsequent to the session.