

year class, the School selected the 56 men who seemed the most promising material.

One of the outstanding features of the expansion of the Yale School of Medicine has been its closer affiliation with the New Haven Hospital and the Dispensary. In addition, the finances of the hospital have been placed on a stronger footing, and the physical rehabilitation has been begun.

Placing the Faculty of the Medical School on a University basis of full-time organization in the clinical service has been an important step in the consolidation of the work of the Medical School and the New Haven Hospital. With the beginning of the fall term of the present year, all four of the Clinical Departments of the School of Medicine have been placed on such a basis. A large number of changes have been made in the Faculty at the same time that Departments have been reorganized and added, with the result that the equipment and Faculty for both the preclinical and clinical years are now exceptional.

The Sterling Hall of Medicine will greatly facilitate the advance of the Medical School. It is hoped that to the Departments of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pharmacology and Toxicology, will be added, in the near future, a Department of Psychiatry. When these subjects have been carried out, all sections being housed together in modern buildings associated with a hospital of a capacity of 500 and the Out-Patient Department developing into a modern diagnostic clinic, the Yale Medical School is certain to occupy a permanent place among medical institutions in this country.

It is estimated that 151,000 died from organic diseases of the heart in 1920, in the United States, which is an increase of about 13,000 over the number in 1919. In Massachusetts, the rate was 195.2 per 100,000 population. Only one state exceeded the Massachusetts rate in 1920. That state is Vermont, with a rate of 228.5.

NOTES FROM DISTRICT SOCIETIES.

NORFOLK DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY.—A regular meeting of the Norfolk District Medical Society was held at Masonic Temple in Roxbury on December 27, 1921. Dr. C. D. Knowlton presided. The paper of the evening was read by Dr. John H. Cunningham. He discussed the subject of prostatic obstruction from every angle, touching upon its cause, pathology, symptoms, sequence of morbidity and treatment. He discussed the various surgical measures of treatment and the prognosis, especially as related to the general condition of the patient. Dr. Quinby, in discussion, added several points in the symptomatology of enlarged prostate not usually associated with the condition.

The large gathering closed the evening with a substantial supper.

JOSEPH I. GROVER, M.D.,
Correspondent for the Norfolk District.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE.

A MEETING of legislative committees representing Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Connecticut, was held in Hotel Belmont, New York City, December 29, 1921, for the purpose of considering legislation of interest to the profession. This meeting was called by Dr. F. R. Green, representing the American Medical Association, and included the northeastern group of states holding legislative sessions in 1922. Massachusetts was represented by President John W. Bartol, Dr. James S. Stone, Dr. Edmund H. Stevens and Dr. Frank G. Wheatley. Plans were made to have annual conferences between adjoining states. The President states that the occasion was a pronounced success.

MINUTES OF THE SURGICAL MEETING OF THE SUFFOLK DISTRICT AT BOSTON MEDICAL LIBRARY, NOV. 30, 1921.

THE meeting was called to order at 8.15 P.M., by Dr. Bottomley, who presided. In the absence of the regular secretary, the Chair appointed Dr. D. F. Mahoney secretary *pro tem*.

Dr. Bottomley introduced as the principal speaker of the evening, Dr. William A. Downes, of New York, the subject of whose paper was, "Inguinal Hernia."

In introducing the speaker, Dr. Bottomley stated that many were of the opinion that from time to time we should be checked up on the subject of hernia.

Dr. Downes then proceeded to read a very interesting, scholarly and instructive paper on the subject of inguinal hernia. In the beginning, the speaker made a few statements, general and special, and then considered the anatomy of inguinal hernia in detail. Following this, the paper was illustrated by the use of lantern slides in which the author showed, more or less diagrammatically, the various steps of some of the principal operations in a radical cure. At the completion of the paper, the Chair called Drs. F. B. Lund, D. F. Jones and Lincoln Davis in discussion. Then followed general discussion, limited to five minutes each, by Drs. H. O. Marcy, David Cheever, F. H. Lahey, E. A. Codman and F. J. Cotton. The discussion was then closed by Dr. Downes.

It was unfortunate that there was not a larger attendance at a meeting of such importance, as there were about forty present. The meeting adjourned at 10.20 P.M.

DANIEL F. MAHONEY,
Secretary pro tem.