

ment of Dr. Moffett's Teethina into another state. Analysis of this preparation showed the product to be a powder consisting essentially of:

Opium.  
Calcium carbonate.

Calomel.  
Powdered cinnamon.

This mixture was said to aid digestion, heal eruptions and sores, prevent a tendency to colic, remove and prevent worms in children, strengthen the child and make teething easy—and to do several other things. All of these claims were declared false by the government officials and on that ground the preparation was declared misbranded. Flourney pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and costs.—[*Notice of Judgment, No. 1019.*]

#### FITCH RHEUMATIC CURE

The Fitch Remedy Company of Racine, Wis., made this stuff, which was "guaranteed to cure the most stubborn case of sciatic or muscular rheumatism." The government chemists reported that it was found to consist essentially of rhubarb and alcohol. False therapeutic claims were the basis of the charge of misbranding brought by the government. The defendant pleaded guilty and paid the \$10 fine that was imposed.—[*Notice of Judgment, No. 1024.*]

#### CERRODANIE CAPSULES

Samuel H. Jameson, who did business at Decatur, Ill., under the firm name of The Cerrodanie Company, made the following claims on the label of his nostrum:

"A positive cure for rheumatism."  
"We are the first to discover the true cause of rheumatism."  
"A radical and certain cure of this dreaded disease."

The capsules were reported by the government chemists to contain sodium salicylate, potassium nitrate and charcoal, together with a small amount of chloroform extract, containing capsicum and an unidentified oily substance and a large amount of talc and the carbonates and oxides of sodium and potassium. Because the therapeutic claims made for this preparation were false, it was declared misbranded. Jameson pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and costs.—[*Notice of Judgment, No. 1025.*]

(To be continued)

## Correspondence

### Eliminate the Term "Allopath"

To the Editor:—The following correspondence speaks for itself:

Mr. JOSEPH W. HILL, President,  
Atlanta City Directory Company,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Sir:—In recent issues of the "Atlanta City Directory," the medical practitioners of the city have been classified as "Allopathic," "Homeopathic," "Eclectic," etc., and at a regular meeting of the Fulton County Medical Society, the undersigned were appointed a committee to confer with you, as president of the directory company, in regard to this classification.

Medical men may be divided into two grand classes—physicians and practitioners of exclusive systems. The adherents of the several systems which have come into existence from time to time, and some of which are now represented in this country, have adopted certain distinctive terms to designate their peculiar practice and to distinguish them from the great body of educated and scientific physicians who belong to no sect, affiliate with no "school," accept no dogma, acknowledge no creed and recognize no arbitrary limit in their practice of the healing art.

To the employment of nicknames on the part of these seceders we urge no objection, and in the use of such names by them—what is voluntary, and in the use of such names by them—what is compulsory, and the names selected by themselves, it is presumed, are appropriate and agreeable to them.

This is not true, however, of the attempt to fix the name "allopathic" on the reputable physicians of the country. Any such epithet is objectionable and offensive to them, and is repugnant to and it is impossible to apply a qualifying term that appropriately describes their status. They hold that it is inconsistent with the dignity of a learned and honored profession to be designated by a nickname or by any appellation of restrictive significance, and that it is entirely at variance with propriety and the facts to describe their faith or practice by a word, when they are not, in any manner, bound or limited in their views of disease, the selection of remedies or the application of remedial agents.

No descriptive term, therefore, is necessary, and none is available. They cannot properly be circumscribed, hedged in or defined. Physicians are the disciples of the whole science and art of medicine in its widest and most comprehensive sense—nothing more and nothing less—without any real or professed limitations, whatsoever.

We feel confident that, on reflection and investigation, you will coincide with these views and that you will accede to our request to eliminate, as misleading, unnecessary and unjust, this distasteful feature of your excellent work.

Awaiting your answer, we are

Yours very truly,

JAMES B. BAIRD, M.D.,  
JOHN C. OLIMSTED, M.D.,  
L. P. STEPHENS, M.D.,  
Committee.

Dr. J. B. BAIRD, Chairman Committee,  
Fulton County Medical Society, City.

Dear Sir:—Replying to your recent favor requesting that we discontinue the use of the term "allopath," as applied to the medical fraternity belonging to your school of medicine, beg to say that it will afford us great pleasure to comply with your request.

In publishing the city directory, it is our chief aim to give satisfaction to everybody and to be accurate in our statements.

With kindest regards, we are

Yours very truly,

ATLANTA CITY DIRECTORY COMPANY.  
Per JOSEPH W. HILL.

I am informed that the objectionable term "allopathic" is in general use throughout the country among directory publishers, and I believe the medical profession should make determined resistance to the obnoxious practice. It is doubtless largely the result of ignorance on the part of publishers—an ignorance which also involves the general public and even some reputable medical men.

It will be a gracious and profitable move on the part of THE JOURNAL with its wide influence to take cognizance of this question.

JAMES B. BAIRD, Atlanta, Ga.

### Antifat and Society Women

To the Editor:—An editorial in THE JOURNAL, entitled "Antifat and Society Women" (Oct. 14, 1911, p. 1290), induces me to report the following, showing a dangerous effect of thyroid: About five years ago a woman, aged 42, came to me complaining that in bright light she had difficulty in seeing, all objects appearing more or less hazy; but in a subdued light, or even in comparative darkness she had no trouble. An ophthalmoscopic examination showed an apparently normal fundus, with the possible exception of slight blurring of the edges of the disk. The vision was 2/3 of normal in each eye. Perimetric examination disclosed an oval central scotoma for red and green in both eyes. Investigation of her mode of life revealed no apparent cause for this condition; she denied being addicted to either tobacco or alcohol. Repeated examination disclosed no sugar in the urine, this being the most frequent cause of a chronic toxic amblyopia, such as she was suffering from. Quite accidentally, during a subsequent examination, she volunteered the information that for a number of months she had been taking an antifat remedy recommended by a friend. Investigation revealed the fact that this patient had been taking thyroid extract for almost three months to reduce her weight. The thyroid was at once stopped; the patient was given strychnin hypodermatically, and in a few weeks the scotoma disappeared. On searching the literature at that time, I found one similar case reported by Albertsberg (*Arch. f. Augenh.* [Knapp's], January, 1904, p. 86), who cites four cases reported by Coppez. Whether any cases have been reported since that time, I am unable to say.

EMANUEL F. SNYDACKER, Chicago.

### Low Sanitary Standards in Rural Communities

To the Editor:—A Current Comment in THE JOURNAL (Oct. 7, 1911, p. 1214) leads me to describe the *status quo* of the town in which I am practicing. No doubt there are numerous parallel cases which literally "smell to heaven" while eliciting no reaction in the obtuse sensibilities of human beings. Our community has about 2,000 inhabitants, but is not incorporated, being part of the township government. It has been built up alongside a foundry which employs nearly all the men of the place; the owners of the foundry