

The second instance of obtaining fraudulent papers is quite as serious as the one referred to above, although quite different in character. Last year the medical faculty of this university expelled one of its students on account of gross immorality. He was furnished with a statement of his class standing, and across this statement in red ink was written "Expelled for gross immorality." This statement was signed by the dean and secretary. Some time later, I learned that this man had entered Rush Medical College. I therefore wrote to Dr. Dodson, dean of that school, asking why he had accepted the man. Dr. Dodson sent me the credentials which the young man had presented him. The young man had had printed a duplicate of the statement given him; had made his class standings all right; and had omitted the statement of the cause of his expulsion. More than this, he had forged the names of the dean and secretary of this school. When these facts were made known to Rush Medical faculty, the young man was immediately expelled from that school. Such an experience as this indicates that the officials of medical schools should exercise more care in accepting credentials from other schools. Respectfully yours, VICTOR C. VAUGHAN, M.D.

County Society Membership.

KINGSTON-ON-HUDSON, Feb. 24, 1902.

To the Editor:—THE JOURNAL of Feb. 22—page 525—contains a letter from Dr. William P. Munn, of Denver, concerning the reorganization of state medical societies. The point to which he takes exception is that in all cases membership in the county society shall constitute membership in the state society, and that membership in the lower body shall be necessary for membership in the higher. His objection is that this is unfair to certain honorable members of the profession, who are already members of the state societies, but who do not care to work in county organizations. (He also refers to the judicial side of the question, upon which I have no opinion to offer.) From my own experience with physicians it seems incredible that any honorable physician could wish to do other than work in his own county society and do all in his power to make it an organization that would merit the respect of the community, so that when its members came together and expressed themselves in matters pertaining to the public good their opinion would be respected.

It certainly would seem to be just to both old and new members that there should be a common standard for all alike; that the opinion of the majority of the physicians of one's own community, who know him best, rather than that of the members of the state society, should determine one's membership. This seems so just and reasonable that I fail to see any necessity for special exemptions or any good to come from them. When the medical profession of the United States becomes reorganized upon this basis it is reasonable to expect two results: 1. It will wield a power in the national, state, and local affairs worthy of the dignity of the profession; for physicians will have learned how to work effectively together. 2. No physician will be practicing medicine very near, if not over, the border line of quackery, in his own community while still preserving some remnants of professional respectability for himself by membership in a state society, and the American Medical Association.

MARY GAGE-DAY, M.D.

Reflex in Irritable Urethra.

BAGLEY, IOWA, March 4, 1902.

To the Editor:—An aid in the diagnosis of irritable or irritated urethral mucous membrane and in the so-called uricacidemics, especially in those where there is great benefit derived from a few passages of the cold steel sound, is what may be called the "umbilico-urethral reflex." The elicitation of this is an easy matter in lean individuals, but in fat persons, difficult, yet practicable.

The manner of performance is a movement from above downward of the nail of the forefinger over the exact center of the umbilicus—"a scratching"—and done not quickly or lightly. This causes the above characterized patients to complain of a sharp, shooting, cutting pain, sometimes of momentary per-

sistence followed by a desire to urinate—from the neck of the bladder to the meatus urethrae.

I will not attempt to explain the observation, but believe it due to the complex innervation of the fetal remnants of the allantois—the urachus—in the adult, and the genito-urinary tract. I have seen no mention of this in literature to which I have access, but if otherwise I would like to know.

Yours sincerely,

JAS. H. MORROWAY, JR.

New Instrument.

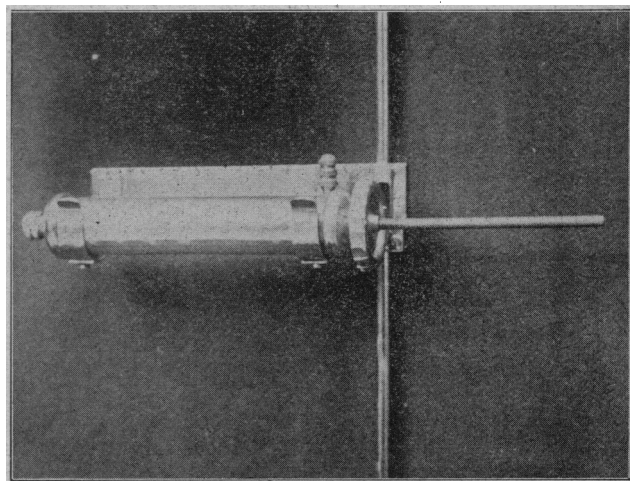
STERILE SOAP MACHINE.

J. H. FIRESTONE, M.D.

FREEMPORT, ILL.

The accompanying cut shows something new in the line of a foot-power sterile soap machine for use in operating rooms.

It consists of a cylinder and plunger, operated by foot power, applied to a ratchet wheel acting upon the arm of the piston by a double-thread screw, which forces the plunger into the cylinder. There are two blank screw caps that go with each cylinder. The plunger, cylinder and contents are sterilized before using.



The machine is taken from the bracket and the plunger removed from the cylinder; then the cylinder is filled with green soap and the blank caps are screwed on either end. The filled cylinder and plunger are then sterilized. After sterilizing the blank caps are taken off, the plunger is adjusted and the machine is placed in the bracket ready to operate.

The machine is made in three sizes, each containing $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 or 2 pounds of green soap.

State Boards of Registration.

Utah State Examination.—The Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Utah held its regular quarterly examination at Salt Lake City, January 6 and 7. The number of subjects examined in were 10; total number of questions, 70; percentage required to pass, 75. The number of applicants were 6, of whom 5 passed.

Candi- date.	Sch. of Pract.	College.	PASSED.		Per- cent.
			Year Grad.		
1	R.	Creighton Medical College.....	1900		77
2	R.	Long Island College Hospital.....	1884		79
3	R.	University of Denver, Med. Dept..	1894		79
4	R.	Gross Medical College.....	1900		85
5	R.	Washington University, Med. Dept.	1886		80
FAILED.					
6	R.	Berlin University, Germany.....	1899		73

Can Not Practice in District of Washington Pending Examination.—In the case of a physician of Alexandria, Va., a graduate of the Columbian University School of Medicine, who requests the privilege of following his profession in the District until an opportunity is given him to take the examination prescribed for practicing physicians, Dr. William C. Woodward, the health officer, has submitted a report in which