

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

BY T. D. CROTHERS, M.D.,

Hon. Secretary of the American Society for the Study of Alcohol and
other Drug Narcotics ; and Editor of the *American Quarterly*
Journal of Inebriety.

The American Association for the Study of Inebriety was founded in New York City in 1870. It was composed of physicians, superintendents, and directors of hospitals for the treatment of inebriates. Its special object was the study of inebriety as a disease, and alcohol as an active and contributing cause.

In 1900 a new Society was formed, called "The American Medical Temperance Association." Its object was the exclusive study of alcohol, and its membership was confined entirely to medical men. In 1904 both Associations united to form one representative and influential body—"The American Association for the Study of Alcohol and other Narcotics."

This is the only society in America for the scientific study of alcoholism, membership of which is restricted to medical men. Its membership now exceeds 1,000, and representatives are scattered over the entire country. The special object of this Association is to gather and formulate all the facts concerning the disease of inebriety, and the action of alcohol on cell and tissue. It also investigates all other forms of narcomanias due to the use of drugs. It seeks to compile and make available the results of laboratory studies and clinical experience. Efforts are made to encourage exact observation and study of the injuries, diseases and degenerations associated with or following from the use of alcohol and drug addiction.

The spirit and purpose of the Association is the medical and scientific study of all phases of the alcohol problem, and the narcomanias from drugs, and their relations to human economy, independent of all theories and previous conclusions. In 1876 the *American Journal of Inebriety* was established as the organ of the Association, and in it has been published most of the leading papers read at the various meetings of the Association. In 1893 a volume composed of the most important papers which had

appeared in the *Journal* was published, and had a very large sale.*

The Association holds its annual meetings at the same time and place as the American Medical Association. This meets the convenience of its members from widely separated parts of the country who are members of the American Medical Association. The semi-annual meetings are held in different cities where public interest demands them.

GERMANY.

BY DR. A. HOLITSCHER,

Hon. Secretary of the Association of German-Speaking
Abstaining Physicians.

In the Fatherland science is supposed to guide and govern both thought and action. This is unfortunately not generally the case in regard to the use of alcohol. Much progress, however, is being made in regard to the scientific study of alcoholism.

The Association of German-Speaking Abstaining Physicians was founded in 1896, with 70 regular members; now the number amounts to 350. There is one honorary member (Prof. G. Sims Woodhead, of Cambridge), and a small number of student associates. The annual subscription amounts to six marks, and for this members receive post free a copy of the *Internationale Monatsschrift zur Bekämpfung der Trinksitten und zur Erforschung des Alkoholismus*, and other publications of the Association. The object of the Association is the study of the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol, the scientific direction of legislative measures relating to inebriety and its consequences, and the establishment of institutions for the care and control of drunkards. In order to effectively combat alcoholism, its members practise total abstinence. As regards the use of alcohol as a therapeutic agent, that is left entirely to the conscience and convictions of each physician.

The Association offers prizes for scientific investigations on matters connected with the alcoholic question. It issues pam-

* Dr. T. D. Crothers will be glad to send particulars if application be made to him at Walnut Lodge Hospital, Hartford, Conn., U.S.A. The *American Journal of Inebriety* is published quarterly (annual subscription, \$2) by Richard G. Badger, 194, Boylston Street, Boston, U.S.A.