

The Triennial Dinner.

This was held in Memorial Hall at the close of the exercises. About 700 guests and students were present. Dr. Alfred Worcester, president of the association, presided. Speeches were made by President Eliot, Governor Guild, Professor Welch, Professor Jacobi, Sir Thomas Barlow, Dr. Warren, Professor Keibel and Senor Ramos. All the speeches contained allusions to the new medical school, and the chairman's reference to the occasion as "one common brotherhood" of the medical fraternity all over the world called forth prolonged enthusiasm.

President Eliot emphasized the religious side of medical science, and referred to the deep religious sentiment prevailing in the music rendered by the alumni chorus at the different exercises. He counseled the medical profession to get together and work together in harmony and coöperation to attack moral as well as the physical evils which infest human society. Governor Guild made a most stirring address on the achievements which Massachusetts and Massachusetts men have accomplished for the betterment of mankind. He recalled three notable advances in public health legislation enacted by the Massachusetts legislature during the year 1906, namely, the state care and education of feeble-minded children; the compulsory medical inspection of school children in all the schools of the state, and the law regulating the sale of "patent medicines" containing poisonous drugs.

Sir Thomas Barlow said that he and his colleagues never dreamed of seeing such a vision of beauty, of charm, of absolute adaptation to the needs for which such buildings are erected as that which he had witnessed on this occasion.

Professor Jacobi said that the astounding impression made by the new medical school took him back to the age of Pericles and Phidias.

Congratulatory speeches were made by Professor Keibel and Dr. Ramos. The ceremony was fittingly closed by Prof. J. Collins Warren, who announced that a large general hospital in connection with the new buildings would soon be erected, and that plans were well completed for beginning the undertaking at a very early date.

Correspondence

The Attacks on the American Medical Association.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 21, 1906.

To the Editor:—Please allow me to congratulate you most sincerely on the presentation, in recent issues of THE JOURNAL, of the facts pertinent to the Walker resolutions, which were introduced at the Boston session, and also the explanation of the attitude of the *Medical Record* in its despicable attack on the Association.

In regard to the Walker resolutions, it is rather unpleasant to me to note that my motion, which, you will recall, was to reconsider the motion which placed these resolutions on the table, has been rather generally looked on as an indication of approval of these resolutions. This is most emphatically an error. Dr. Happel correctly stated the intent of my motion in his reply to Dr. Carstens' letter. My desire was to emphasize the rejection of the proposed resolutions, and to prevent any attempt at their subsequent consideration. The President ruled my motion out of order and, while I disagreed with him as to the correctness of his ruling, I did not consider it a point of sufficient importance to raise an objection.

In regard to the oft-reiterated claim of dissensions in the ranks of the Association, of course, I can speak only for our state, but, so far as California is concerned, I take great pleasure in advising you that never before, within my knowledge of society affairs, has there been such a general approval of the American Medical Association and of its many and various important undertakings. Never has dissension been further away than at the present time. PHILIP MILLS JONES.

Standardization of Suprarenal Products.

DETROIT, Sept. 25, 1906.

To the Editor:—A very erroneous impression is likely to be made on the minds of your numerous readers by your editorial on page 944 of THE JOURNAL, September 22. To 19 men out

of 20 the clear meaning of the article is that manufacturers do not standardize their suprarenal preparations, whereas, speaking emphatically for ourselves, we do standardize these products, with special reference to our adrenalin and adrenalin solution, ointment and inhalant. We have always done so. In THE JOURNAL as far back as 1902 (see page 150, Jan. 18, 1902), our exact method of standardization was set forth in the full-detail by our chief pharmacologist, Dr. E. M. Houghton.

We have no objection to government supervision over the suprarenal preparations of the market; some of them need it. But the very thing which you are urging we have performed systematically ever since we began to market any of the preparations of the suprarenal gland, standardizing each and every lot of every single preparation and guaranteeing its physiologic activity.

If you will refer to page 1732 of the last edition of the National Dispensatory you will find likewise a complete working method for the assay of adrenalin and other products which are not susceptible of chemical assay.

PARKE, DAVIS & Co.,
Per E. G. SWIFT, General Manager.

Populations of Cities in the Educational Number.

PORTLAND, ORE., Sept. 19, 1906.

To the Editor:—In the Educational Number of THE JOURNAL, August 25, in giving the population of cities, you give Portland, Ore., 98,655, and, while this is taken from the United States census of 1903, it places our city in an unfair position. Our city to-day has a population variously estimated at from 150,000 to 200,000. From all available sources the conservative estimate places our city at 175,000, and this is not "hot air." We have substantial facts to bear us out.

I have asked Governor Chamberlain, Mayor Harry Lane, M.D., of Portland, Auditor Devlin of Portland, and Tom Richardson, manager of the Portland Commercial Club, for estimates, and will enclose their replies. Portland has not been advertised as most western cities have been, and is comparatively little known in the East, and it is only just to give us the prominence to which we are entitled.

BYRON E. MILLER, M.D.,
Secretary of the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of Oregon.

[The letters which Dr. Miller enclosed estimate the present population of Portland at from 150,000 to 178,705. Since the statistics referred to were for last year, the growth in population subsequent to 1905, while a matter for congratulation, is immaterial. The figures published were taken from the official estimates made by the Census Bureau in 1903, so as to have a recognized basis. We are glad to give publicity to the facts brought out by Dr. Miller.—ED.]

The Teaching of Medical Jurisprudence.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 8, 1906.

To the Editor:—A valuable service to the cause of good medical education was done by your editorial August 25 concerning the extent of teaching of medical jurisprudence in American medical schools. During a considerable part of my active professional life, I was chemist to the coroner and district attorney of this city, and had, therefore, much opportunity to see the necessity of instruction in the determination of causes of death. It seemed sad to see the vast amount of valuable material that was allowed to go to waste in connection with numerous and varied forms of violent death.

In this city the coroner appoints one or more physicians, who make the necessary postmortems and report to the office. As is known throughout the nation, Philadelphia has been for many years in the grip of a political ring, which has no superior in the world for corruption and obstruction. The coroner's office is most important to the great corporations. Verdicts from the coroner have important bearings on damage suits, and in the years in which I was familiar with the coroner's office in this city, it was the custom of one of the street railway companies to give money, generally \$5, to the