

shoe Bend of the Tennessee River, and surrounded by mountains whose scenery is unsurpassed.

Among the attractions of Chattanooga are its hotels. The Hotel Patton, with the Annex, is one of the finest commercial hotels in the South. The Hotel Park in the down town section is the newest of Chattanooga's hostleries; and the big old Reed House, familiar to those of Tri-State days, is being remodeled to compete with the modern hotels. Perhaps the most attractive hotel available to visitors to Chattanooga is the Signal Mountain Hotel. Though it is twelve miles from the city, a trolley line with half-hour schedules and paved automobile roads winding through the palisades of the Tennessee River up to the summit of Signal Mountain make it of easy access to those who delight in the scenery, golfing, tennis, swimming and other pleasures of mountain resorts. The Signal Mountain Hotel, which has 200 rooms, every one with bath, is fireproof and is modern in all its appointments. It will attract many physicians who go to Chattanooga with their wives to combine rest and pleasure with the scientific work of the Association.

In Chattanooga those familiar with history will be interested in visiting Lookout Mountain, where was fought the Battle of the Clouds, Missionary Ridge, Waddon's Ridge, Chickamauga and others made sacred in the fierce fighting around Chattanooga in the dark and bloody days of the Civil War. These attractions will make many physicians who attend the 1922 meeting prolong their stay for two or three days after the meeting.

Nature and the fate of history have combined to make Chattanooga one of the most delightful and interesting cities in America, but the physicians of the city

are not relying upon those attractions to make the November meeting a success. Though it is ten months distant, they are thoroughly organized and are already working to make the Chattanooga meeting one of the memorable occasions in the history of the Southern Medical Association.

THE PAST DECADE OF THE ASSOCIATION'S LIFE

It is not complimenting the Association too highly to say that the history of its development is more or less the index of the development and progress of Southern medicine. If we look over the ten-year period from 1911, when the Association was a promising babe, subject to the vicissitudes of fortune and the mercy of its many parents, to 1921, we note a marked change in the Association's programs. Though we must always hope that the quality of the articles is steadily improving, we realize that the papers of ten years ago were scientific, well written and of a kind that we should always be proud to claim as Southern. The change in 1921 is rather in the number of men who now interest themselves in a general meeting, and the growth of specialism which is as striking as the growth of the Association itself.

In 1911 there were just three sections, Medicine, Surgery, and Ophthalmology. At that time the profession in the larger Southern centers was divided mainly into physicians, surgeons, and eye, ear, nose and throat men. For instance, a man usually specialized in surgery only after he had built up a fairly large general practice.

In 1912 a new section was added: Hygiene and Preventive Medicine (now known as Public Health).

By 1916 there were six sections, and in 1919 there were eight sections, two affiliated associations and one jointly-meeting association, though we had by no means recovered from the war. And in 1921, which probably represents many of the war's stimulating effects upon medicine, there were thirteen sections, three affiliated associations and one jointly-meeting association. This is indicative of the rapid growth and success in the South of all these divisions of our labor. In 1911 there were 148 papers which covered practically every general subject that we find in the programs of today, and in 1921 there were 213. This is not a proportional increase. The difference in the meeting of ten years ago and the meeting of this year lies mainly in the number of men now capable of discussing a paper intelligently and of adding something to the ideas expressed by the author. Where formerly there were only a handful of such persons in each section, the number has now increased a hundredfold. The membership of the Association in 1911 was about nine hundred, while it is now six thousand five hundred, a gain of five thousand six hundred, or more than five hundred a year.

Each time a new section was established there has been some opposition to it. Some doubt of its need existed till after the first meeting, after which there was never a question of dropping it. We have been as lucky in the choice of officers for the new sections as for the old, and this has probably contributed to their success.

Many members of each section are of course general practitioners, who derive benefit from the special and intensive study of the men whose practice is lim-

ited. On the other hand, these general practitioners bring to the section the advantage of their less biased minds. We feel that both types contribute greatly to the Association, and through it to the profession at large.

We are likewise proud of our public health work, which has been one of the main inspirations since the Association was founded. There may have been in the beginning a feeling of opposition on the part of some to public health work, for instance, toward malaria work, which seemed to destroy part of what they considered their legitimate practice. The realization is more general now that unfortunately there will always be enough sickness to go round, that the doctor holds his place in the public heart because of his peculiar service and professional character, and that the minute he combats preventive measures for selfish reasons he marks himself as a reactionary and an egoist, and thus loses the practice which he is trying to maintain. There is no physician in the South, we feel today, who is not eager to strengthen every effort for more extensive preventive medicine.

In the last decade, despite the interference of the greatest war in history, the Southern medical men, and through them the Southern Medical Association, has taken these phenomenal strides forward. After the war our physicians took up the work where they had left off. Broadened by their experiences, they in turn have enriched their Association and their JOURNAL. It has been a memorable ten years. Our hope for the same advance for the Association and its members in the next decade may sound a bit trite, but we have faith in it.