

patients, the Editors have concluded that it is contrary to the policy of this JOURNAL to accept advertising from an institution that uses such means to maintain its patronage. Therefore, when their contract with us expired we notified them that we could not consider a continuation or renewal of the contract, telling them as politely as possible our reasons for such a conclusion. In taking this step we shall no doubt be considered over-particular, since, so far as we know, no other journal has declined this good paying advertisement.

The SOUTHERN MEDICAL JOURNAL is conducted in the interest of physicians and their patients, and it does not consider that the interests of either are conserved by supporting the efforts of an institution that reaches out for patients through the lay press, and by means of circular letters and laudatory literature directly to possible patients. The JOURNAL needs money, but not badly enough to accept it from any source which it concludes to be inimical to the welfare of the medical profession. Physicians may rest assured that the sanitariums whose advertisements appear in this JOURNAL are in every respect worthy of their confidence. Whenever it learns that such is not the case, their advertisements will be declined, no matter what financial loss may follow.

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### THE LEXINGTON ORATIONS.

Two pronouncements of very great importance marked the meeting of the Southern Medical Association at Lexington, "The Oration on Surgery," by Dr. F. W. Parham, and "The Oration on Medicine," by Dr. Lewellys F. Barker. The subject of Dr. Parham was "Surgical Shock," while that of Dr. Barker was "Diagnosis and Treatment of the Common Thyreopathies." Any detailed description here of these two masterpieces would be superfluous, as that first mentioned was the leading article in the December JOURNAL, while that of Dr. Barker is published in full in this number. It is no more than right, however,

to declare that each, in its own field, gives the latest and most authoritative views of the profession.

The article by Dr. Barker is a comprehensive treatise upon the disease of the thyroid gland. Indeed, only its extreme importance warrants the publishing committee in directing its publication entire in one number, in the face of its request to authors to confine their papers to the limit of five pages. As a monograph of such importance by a man so eminent it would, in book form, readily sell for an amount equal to the price of the JOURNAL for one year. As Dr. Jackson, in his presidential address at Jacksonville last year, said, "the readers of THE SOUTHERN MEDICAL JOURNAL cannot complain of the high cost of living" when it publishes such valuable articles by men so eminent in the medical profession.

We commend the careful study of these "Orations" because they contain much matter of importance that is not published in even the latest text-books on surgery and medicine. The journals containing them should be filed for future reference. To those of our readers who do not bind their journals we would call attention to the advantage of having these two masterpieces, with the many other valuable papers that have been and will be published in THE JOURNAL, carefully filed with the intention of having them bound in one attractive volume at the end of the year. The twelve numbers of the Journal for 1914 will make the best year book of medicine for the physician or surgeon practicing medicine in the South.

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### THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY SURGEONS.

The organization of the Southern Association of Railway Surgeons, which was effected at the Lexington meeting of the Southern Medical Association, is the result of a demand for such action that has existed for some years and increased in extent until it finally culminated as above indicated. The New England and the Northern and Western States have