

desirable, more especially in America, both in preliminary attainments and in the qualifications for practice, and has already resulted in a considerable reduction in the number of medical schools in the United States, due to the closing of some which were badly conducted and imperfectly equipped.<sup>1</sup>

It is obviously only reasonable to assume that the great advances which have been made in medical science during the last few decades, together with the increased facilities for education in other subjects, indicate the desirability of a corresponding progress in regard to medical education, and of the requirement of higher standards of qualification from those entering the profession.

*Preliminary Education and Requirements.*—In the recent Carnegie report on "Medical Education in Europe" stress is laid upon the point that the education of a physician is "primarily an educational, and not a medical question," and that the methods and results of professional teaching are dependent upon the general educational system of the country itself. It is unanimously agreed that, on the whole, professional training in Germany is on a high level, and the Committee considers that the excellence of the education received in the German secondary (or collegiate) school is mainly responsible for this. There can be no question that the most satisfactory results as regards medical education are obtained only when it is based upon a good system of general education.

The requirements for admission to medical schools and colleges vary in different countries. In England a minimum preliminary standard, comprising four elementary subjects, three of them being languages, has been indirectly established. It is decidedly low. No medical school holds an examination in general subjects, but the General Medical Council and other qualifying bodies publish lists of examinations which they are willing to accept. These include the local and matriculation examinations of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. In France it is compulsory that the student shall have obtained the *Baccalauréate* on leaving the *Lycée* or secondary school, and in addition have devoted a year to the study of the elementary sciences of physics, chemistry and biology.

As a result of the publication of the Carnegie report and the recommendations of the various American medical societies,<sup>2</sup> the standard of admission has recently been raised in a large proportion of the medical schools in the United States, and some of the

<sup>1</sup>Colwell: Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc., 1912, lviii, 654.

<sup>2</sup>Colwell: loc cit.