

to greater advantage, it has been well shown that in preparing the student for research work many of the smaller schools do as efficient work, if not more so, than the larger ones. Personal supervision of the teacher is one the greatest helps in preparation, and this, as a rule, is better carried out in the smaller schools. However, our larger schools, by increasing the staff, are giving recognition to the fact that individual attention is one of the greatest helps to student life. Many of the improvements and advances in our profession have not been due to the laboratories of our Universities, but have been thought out during the daily rounds, let me say, of the country physician. I ask you to recall Ephraim McDowell.

Not to be behind our smaller cities in Ontario, Toronto, everyone will be glad to know, is about to make a great effort to be up-to-date in the matter of hospital extension and library work. There is no doubt that, if successful in their undertaking, research work will receive a great impetus. While it may seem a matter of great renown for him who succeeds in the field of research and gives to the world something new, it is no less praiseworthy for him whose lifework consists in administering all that is latest and best for the relief of human suffering. There may be a scintillation of truth in the fact that if a man has little desire to enter the field of research before middle life he is not likely to do much after, but it is an incontrovertible fact so far as the application of what is already known to be beneficial, to be helpful for the relief of suffering humanity, the powers of the physician, his experience, his judgment, his power of discernment, increases as the years roll on and do not cease until disease or a ripe old age superannuates him. The author of "Bonnie Brier Bush" tells us that it created a scandal in his country for any citizen to "slip awa'" before sixty, and that persons above ninety were understood to be acquitting themselves with credit and brushed aside the opinion of seventy as immature.

You will agree with me, I am sure, that the sum of human happiness could be materially increased by the stamping out of some preventable diseases—diseases that may be totally avoided, diseases that are under the control of the individual and society. The gynecologist, the genito-urinary surgeons, the neurologist, will tell you that a great deal of their work is due to the gonococcus and syphilis. What diseases more loathsome? You will admit, I am sure, that these are preventable diseases. What diseases are more contagious? What diseases leave their dire results in the human system more than these do to be handed down to the third and fourth generation? And yet they are preventable, wholly preventable. It is not for me to discuss the phases of social life that produce these, but in many instances useful, innocent lives should be protected. It is true in the practice of our profes-