

the original contributions have heretofore been printed. The enlarged size will also enable the publishers to make a better display of the illustrations which are such an important feature of the *Annals'* contributions.

Thirty years ago, when the first number of the *Annals of Surgery* appeared, the size and style then shown suited admirably. At that time a single number contained only 96 pages. They have continued to increase each year until now the average number of pages to an issue is 164. Special issues have been published, in which the number has been increased to over 300 pages, with the result that the manufacturing of the journal in the former style is not only extremely difficult, but the finished product is unwieldy and cannot be read with the ease and comfort which is due a subscriber. In fact, it required constant pressure on the pages to keep them open.

We believe the new form overcomes this inconvenience and enables the publishers to give the reader more material and greater comfort while reading than it could have been possible for them to present in the former size.

The July issue has a choice collection of important articles of exceptional value to the general practitioner, as well as the surgeon. It is a splendid example of the way this publication continues to set the pace in surgery.

DEFEAT OF THE ANTI-VACCINATION BILL.

The anti-vaccination bill met with an overwhelming defeat in the House (Washington), on May 14. The vote stood 133 to 53. Largely owing to the influence of the Christian Scientists the contest was fierce and persistent. The Senate had already approved of the measure, 25 to 9, and the sponsors had great expectations of victory.

Great credit is due to Dr. E. H. Bigelow who led the fight in the House. He made the principal speech, exhibited pictures and charts to show the effects of smallpox in contrast to vaccination and did much to convince the open-minded members of the advantages to be derived from the operation. The replies of the State Board of Health to a series of questions suggested by Representative Chamberlain, of Springfield, also had their effect. Mr. Moore, of Leominster, and many other public-spirited members of the House deserve the gratitude of the friends of good government for their wise action in defeating the bill.—*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*.