

partaking of a peach and then a large slice of watermelon. No ill-effects followed.

Tanner was born in England, February 7, 1831. Previous to his first fast his health was so precarious that he anticipated an early death. Thirty-seven years later, at the age of 83, he announced that since the fast in 1877 his health had been invariably excellent.

PROPOSED MEDICAL CHANGES IN BRITAIN.

Changes in England's system of medical service whereby the "panel" plan now applicable to the poor would be extended to all classes are proposed by a Government committee.

For a number of years, under a Health Insurance Act, wage earners have been called upon to make a small weekly payment to a fund which the Government uses to provide medical attention for all classes of the population affected by the insurance law. Every practising physician must treat a certain number of the so-called "panel" patients, receiving pay for this work from the Government. The new scheme provides for whole-time medical service, and practitioners entering it are to be graded into five classes corresponding to military rank, ranging from lieutenant to colonel.

Class 1 would be paid \$7,500 a year; class 2, \$5,000, and so on down to class 5, which would pay \$2,000. Examinations would be held for promotion to higher classes. Expenses incurred by the practitioner for drugs, appliances, clinics and travelling expenses would be paid by the Government.

Each physician would be expected to look after between 2,000 and 3,000 patients. The higher classes of medical men would deal chiefly with administrative work and with the giving of consultative advice.

The patients would be expected to attend a surgery in the morning. Evening consultation would be discontinued and less visits would be paid at night to patients than is done now. Work out of hours would be taken over by juniors.

All hospitals would be taken over by the Government under this plan.

According to the secretary of the Medico-Political Union, there is a flow of protests from physicians in the army against the scheme.

"Not one-third of the doctors want it," he said. "A clinical service is an abhorrence to both medical men and the public. We are not opposed to State control of hospitals. What we object to in the clinical system is the destruction of the personal relationship between practitioner and patient, and the abolition of free choice of doctor. The women will be dead against it."