

would be increased and recruited from her own graduates. Such can only be considered as a step in the right direction—a true encouragement to merit. Our best men should be kept at home, and to their alma mater should belong the credit of their labors. We all hope for the time when there will be provided some institute of research where those whose tastes lie in that direction will be allowed to pursue, under proper supervision, the work of their choice. The endowment of such an institution by the government would be in the public interest. It is generally admitted now that when the cause of disease is clearly known, the effect can be more easily removed, or, better still, prevented. The medicine of the future is preventive. Knowing this, it becomes our duty to teach it, and when we who are now students go out into practice, to lose no opportunity of educating public opinion as to the necessity of an institute such as that to which I have referred. I think if such an institute were properly launched, the character of the work done would be its best appeal for support and the extension of its usefulness. Something of the kind, encouraging original investigation along the lines of physiology, physiological chemistry, biology, pathology, and bacteriology, must greatly increase the knowledge we now possess, and which has done so much in the way of preventing disease and led to the hope that in years not far distant many of the diseases now so prevalent will be known only as curiosities. Sufficient illustration of what has been done is seen in the improved treatment of diphtheria, and in the fact that septicæmia is all but wiped out by the advent of the use of antiseptics.

That disease will ever be completely wiped out is beyond the hope of the most sanguine; but if through the efforts of the profession in introducing good sanitary precautions, by the advocacy of correct habits of living, and by the successful treatment of disease, the average of life is lengthened to any appreciable extent and human suffering lessened, then it has not worked in vain.

It is not only along the lines of research and investigation in the sciences which lie at the bottom of medicine, and which present such a fascinating field, that improvement has been made, but also in applying the knowledge thus acquired, supplemented by the not less interesting nor less important information obtained at the bedside.

It is only by comparison with the past that we can properly appreciate all that has been done. Where once new growths could only be grouped according to gross appearance, we have now the microscope to assist in rightly classifying them and to indicate proper treatment. An early removal thus suggested may often be the means of saving life. The stethoscope enables us to detect and describe pathological conditions of lung and heart almost to a certainty where once our knowledge was based