

here, but social workers with a medico-social training are still more helpful. The physician has, as a rule, neither the training nor the time to grapple with the conditions of poverty, industry and personality which lie behind a large proportion of the diseases of out-patients. Unless they are dealt with, however, neither patient nor physician can expect to get satisfactory results and there is a good reason why the patient does not come back.

"The growing public demand for more and better out-patient work faces the institutions with the dilemma of either failing to elevate their service or of raising large sums from private philanthropy or from municipalities. For these increased funds we need to be able to go to charitable givers, to city councils, or to legislatures with figures to back us, as well as hopes.

Re-forestration and conservation of the woodlands of the country was advocated by the American Medical Association at the final sessions of their sixty-third annual convention. A resolution embodying points brought out by President Jacobi, of New York, in which it was declared that such work on the part of the Federal Government would be the only preventative against future devastation of huge sections of the country, similar to the recent disasters along the Mississippi, was ultimately adopted.

Another resolution, which was considered and then referred over until next year, when truer representation of facts can be submitted, asked that the Federal Department dealing with inter-state commerce question, secure the enactment of laws forcing the payment of a revenue by all trade houses dealing in opium and side products between states.

A third resolution asked for the creation of a National Board of Health and passed only after a warm debate. The physicians backing the measure downed the opposition, whose argument had been that the resolution might be misinterpreted by the public at large, by declaring that the move was taken as citizens with the welfare of the country at heart and not as professional men.

In the section on ophthalmology, Dr.

John A. Donovan, of Butte, Mont., declared the sight of the nation's marksmen is the real defense of the country in time of war. He called on eye specialists to assist in the work of preventing injury or accident to the eyes of the riflemen in the army, navy, and state militia. The hookworm must shoulder some of the responsibility for eye trouble in the opinion of Dr. F. P. Calhoun, of Atlanta.

Typhoid fever is at last being successfully checked through anti-typhoid inoculation in the opinion of experts who appeared before the section on public health. In a paper read by Dr. Leslie H. Spooner, of Boston, it was shown the danger to nurses and others who come in direct contact with patients suffering from typhoid has been practically eliminated by the treatment.

Dr. M. L. Ravitch, of Louisville, in the section on dermatology, made a plea for earlier diagnosis of pellagra, as it presents a most serious problem in the southern states. He favored the protozoan theory as the most plausible one with regard to the origin of the disease, the transmission being through migratory birds.

Dr. John A. Witherspoon, of Nashville, Tenn., was elected president of the association by the house of delegates, which looks after the business of the organization.

Minneapolis was chosen as the meeting place for 1913, in June.

United States Notes.

Dr. P. M. Hall, Health Commissioner of Minneapolis, has issued a sweeping order to sanitary inspectors which spells the doom of 9,000 of the 17,000 vaults in Minneapolis and also a great number of cess-pools. Every property owner who can make sewer connections will be ordered to do so and every sanitary inspector will be charged with the duty of seeing that this order is carried out in his district.

A bill for the physical examination of brides and grooms before marriage, offered in the 1911 Legislature of Wisconsin by Senator G.E. Hoyt, a physician, and never