

exception in the case of Mr. Pellew, of the department of chemistry of Columbia University, who recently concluded a course of lectures in the Museum of Natural History on the subject of the good and bad effects of alcohol. Mr. Pellew stated without reserve, and backed up his statement by citing the most careful observations and experiments of well-known investigators, that "there was no doubt that, even in health, a small amount of alcohol, if given in divided doses, could be burned up in the blood and serve as food, without producing any injurious effects." We are quoting from the *Sun's* report of Mr. Pellew's last lecture. He went on to say that in diseased conditions, where nutrition was impaired, alcohol could be given in greatly increased amounts without any intoxicating effect, and was then of enormous value. An ounce of it, he said, gave as much heat as seven or eight ounces of beef, and that without having to undergo the processes of digestion and assimilation. In other words, it burned, "as in a lamp, without wasting the wick." On the other hand, the popular notion that alcohol will keep up the heat of the body under exposure to great cold was declared to be a mistake. Alcohol, said Mr. Pellew, actually reduced the temperature of the blood, but it was of service to restore equilibrium after the exposure was over. The lecturer was not backward in depicting the horrors of drunkenness, to which, of course, no reasonable man can shut his eyes. He spoke of the dram-drinking habit as a nervous disease rather than a vice. He properly insisted that, in health, the only good effects of alcohol, "except, indeed, its action as a 'scavenger of mankind,'" came from its moderate use.—*New York Medical Journal*.

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INDICATIONS FOR AND AGAINST OPERATION IN CANCER OF THE UTERUS—Dr. Emory Lanphear (*Medical Era*), from an experience of nearly one hundred hysterectomies for cancer of the uterus, reaches the following conclusions: "Radical operation is indicated: 1. As soon as a diagnosis of carcinoma of the cervix is made—provided the disease is unquestionably not too far advanced for any possible benefit at the time of first examination. 2. Whenever there is a fungous growth upon the cervix (especially in a patient near the menopause), which persists in spite of treatment, even though there is no ulceration and but little tendency to spread. It is probably the papillary form of carcinoma cervicis (cauliflower cancer); and there is always involvement of the mucous membrane of the body, so that high amputation will not cure. 3. When there are one or more nodules in the mucous membrane of the cervix, which soon ulcerate and destroy the mucosa. Such trouble is almost invariably the