

since it became worthy of being a science. Should not every school-child know that through our profession the average length of human life has been doubled; that in the last twenty-five years, eight years have been added to the average length of life; that it is to our profession that every civilized nation looks to wipe out plagues and hold back and even arrest epidemics? We have given the widest publicity to vaccination against smallpox with happiest results. Why not give publicity to the equally valuable vaccination against typhoid fever? Our battle against tuberculosis has been a publicity campaign in which the laity has not only believed, but has actually joined with us in great force. The enlightenment of the public in this will render it impossible hereafter for the heartless quacks to thrive upon the ignorance of the consumptive victim. If the battle against cancer, the twin monster of tuberculosis, gains this publicity together with a similar sympathy and active support from the laity, our triumph over this disease is to be within the life of many in this room. Let us never grow tired of impressing the fact that it was the regular profession which discovered anesthetics, abolishing pain and agony off and on the operation table, and that it will not be in the power of the human race in the future to duplicate a boon to humanity like antiseptic surgery. In spite of the fact that serum has cut the fatalities of diphtheria in half, in addition to putting into our possession the most potent agent against the spread of this dread disease of childhood, that the Spanish American Main has been swept clear of the yellow fever scourge, and that we have not only the cure for malaria, but also the power to wipe it off the face of the land, yet there are, both among the ignorant and intellectual, those who declare that medicine has made no advancement in one hundred years, and all this because we have not given the widest publicity to our achievements. In the expressed opinion of Lord Salisbury, medicine is the most exact and advanced of all the true sciences. It has rendered tributary to itself the knowledge of every walk in life.

In conclusion, while I have unflinchingly probed these festering sores on the surface of our professional body, I hasten to declare the heart of it to be sound and flawless, jetting out from its valves a fountain stream of all that is splendid in the history of science and humanity; matchless in progress, matchless in achievement, and matchless in future outlook.