

widemouthed sterile test tubes, a few rolls in each tube, and these are kept in a covered vessel and used as desired. A convenient apparatus has been devised by Clark which could be improved by leaving off the glass indicating tube. The principal points to be observed are as follows: the catgut must be perfectly dried before subjecting it to the high temperature of boiling Cumol, and care must be taken that the vapor of the Cumol, which is heavier than air, does not come into contact with the flame or red hot metal. If the catgut is not perfectly dried it will become brittle on boiling. To prevent the Cumol from taking fire the sand bath must be a wide one, extending at least 3-4 inches beyond the flame on all sides, and the vessel containing the Cumol should have a tightly fitting top with a corked opening for the thermometer, and an escape tube, by means of which the gaseous Cumol can be conducted away from the flame. Any device by which the vapor is prevented from rolling over the sides of the vessel will answer. It is well to place the catgut before drying in a suitable wire basket and surround it with filter paper. The basket with its contents is transferred from the drying apparatus to the Cumol. This device prevents the catgut from coming in contact with the sides of the metal vessel. The method of Cumol sterilization has been used for five years in the Gynecological Department of the Johns Hopkins Hospital with perfectly satisfactory clinical results. The objections to its use are the time and care required in carrying it out. The cost is relatively small, as very little Cumol is lost each time and the liquid can be used repeatedly."

American Public Health Association

The 28th Annual Meeting of the above association will be held in Indianapolis from Oct. 22nd to the 26th, under the Presidency of Dr. P. H. Bryce, of Toronto. A very extensive and excellent programme has been prepared for the meeting.

Illustrious Dead.

Several illustrious members of our profession have recently joined the silent majority—Dr. Lewis A. Sayre, the great American Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr. Alfred Stille, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Da Costa, author of the well known work on Physical Diagnosis, Dr. A. J. C. Skene, the Brooklyn Gynaecologist, and Dr. Hunter McGuire. It is fortunately rare that so many landmarks in the profession should pass away within so short a time.
