

cipal Boards of Health, physicians, civil authorities, and such others as it may deem proper for the purpose of obtaining information relative to criminal abortion, to publish in documents and newspapers all things relative thereto proper to be published, and that sanitarians, educators, social scientists, civil authorities, and others be requested to communicate to the Board all information in their possession relative to the same, and that the clergy and press be earnestly solicited to acquaint themselves with the subject and to educate their hearers and readers as to the prevalent causes, consequences, and moral depravity of this great curse of the nineteenth century.

MEDICINAL NOSTRUMS IN THEIR RELATIONS TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

In a paper on this subject Prof. A. B. Prescott, M.D., of Ann Arbor, said, this class of articles are not foods but are taken into the body, and because of this affect the vigor of the common wealth. They are recognized by no responsible persons nor do they receive any regulation from any authority. As they affect the health of the people, they should come under the care of the Boards of Health.

Though known as "patent medicines" only a few are really patented. Although their proprietors are often wealthy, they do not seem to be accountable for the unwarranted statements concerning the merits of their wares.

A few years ago it was estimated that eighty millions of dollars worth of nostrums were sold annually in the United States, or at the rate of two dollars for each man, woman and child in our country. All countries are infested with them. The catalogue of a

single wholesale drug house contained 1,500 kinds of nostrums.

What effect do these have on the people? Cosmetics have been found to contain corrosive sublimate, white lead, etc., and patients have been treated for lead poisoning caused by the use of face powders containing it. Hair dyes come in the same category of evil things, and cures for catarrh displayed some very queer combinations.

It was submitted that the use of nostrums did injury to the health of the people. In order to prevent people purchasing them, begin education against them in the schools. Let the actual composition of nostrums be published wider among the people.

STUDIES ON THE NATURE OF MALARIA.

TRANSLATED FROM THE *Rivista Clinica de Bologna*, NOVEMBER, 1880, BY HAL C. WYMAN, M. D., PROFESSOR PHYSIOLOGY, DETROIT MEDICAL COLLEGE.

(From *Detroit Lancet*.) -

In June, 1879, Professors Edwin Klebs and Tommasi Crudeli published the results of their studies on the nature of malaria.

In March, 1880, the latter gentleman published an account of his observations in Sicily on the nature of the *Bacillus malariae*.

Since then the following gentlemen have been elaborating the subject: Prof. Perroncito, *della Scuola Veterinaria di Torino*; Prof. Ceci, *della Università di Camerino*; Prof. Cuboni, *Assistente alla Cattedra di Botanica d'ella Università di Roma*; Prof. Marchiafava, *della Università di Roma*; Drs. Valenti, Ferraresi, Sciamana and Piccirilli, *Medici Romani*. Here are the results obtained by these new observers:

(1) In the malarial districts about