

halls have become common property. They will be then more plain living and high thinking and less repining on the part of the masses on account of their enforced moderation. Whether we will or no, people will try to meet their own need as to food and physic in what they think is the best way. It is the prerogative duty of the profession to show that Nature's laws, rightly interpreted and adopted, are the only safe guide to good living—not men's whims, fads, and fickle appetites or ingrained habits; and that much of the money that goes for patent foods, as well as the millions spent on patent medicines (so-called), are, as a rule, misspent. Thirty-five per cent. of all deaths are under five years. A large proportion of the infants and other very young folk who die would be saved if properly fed. Proper food and hygiene are the hope of future generations. There is a great field for missionary work by the profession.

The furnishing of clean pure milk to communities is one of the greatest boons to humanity of recent years. Pediatric societies in the United States have done good service in this regard through the agency of certificates, and the example is a good one. There are many infants' foods, and, let us hope, not a few of these good ones, but there are some which are not; so-called meat extracts, for example, have little nutritive value. And the need of care is shown by the warning of Sir Thomas Barlow given in 1894, that "condensed milk or even sterilized milk is not an efficient substitute for the natural food of the infant, and that infantile scurvy may be caused by their sole use." And animals have been found to rapidly die when fed on a mixture of all the supposed constituents of milk. There is an "unknown quantity" even here.

The past decade has been marked by an increase in the debt medicine owes to physiology and physiological chemistry, and by a sense of the growing importance of the latter, which, on account of its recognized status and value, is now made a subject of study in the course of medicine. The bio-chemistry of the cell and its nucleus goes on apace, and many of the proteids can now be prepared in a purely crystalline form, showing the great complexity of the living protoplasmic molecule. I may be pardoned for saying that it would be strange indeed if the rightful relation of physiology and physiological chemistry to medicine were ignored, when the head of the department had done pioneer work of high order in this line. As Prof. Newell Martin, of honored memory, long ago pointed out, "three great advances in medical thought were due to researches in