

small, and there is usually the feeling that you have got your money's worth.

A doctor whose knowledge of German is very rudimentary would be pleased to hear that the language problem is not insurmountable. There are many men who go there and get good courses who do not understand a word of German. Most of the instructors can lecture in English, some of it so good that it would make even a Canadian proud if he could speak as well. Those who know German, however, have an advantage, for they can attend whatever lectures they desire. But a very few words and phrases will carry one a long way.

Vienna is a very beautiful city in many ways and has some fine art galleries. Then the outlying villages are all intensely interesting and easily reached by short excursions. Although the cost of living is rather high (\$10 to \$15 a week in a pension), the food is good, and the Viennese make a specialty of catering to the American physician. If, however, one desires to live as the Austrians do, he can get along very cheaply, although the landlords are proverbial for their sharpness in driving a bargain and in "doing the American."

The concensus of opinion among medical men who have worshipped at the shrine of *Æsculapius* in many places is that Vienna cannot be surpassed as a place to give both quality and quantity of work to a physician who has only a short time at his disposal.

F. A. C.

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### A New Method of Inflating the Stomach

Stewart Lewis (*J. A. M. A.*) has practised the following method in about 50 cases: He places the patient on the examining table, with the abdomen exposed, and arranges a siphon of carbonated water so that the patient can drink. He directs the patient to drink slowly at first, and then as rapidly as possible. The average patient takes about eight ounces, though in favorable cases half this amount will bring the outline of the stomach into view, while the mixture of gas and fluid gives to palpation a crackling feel and a typical splash apparent to the most inexperienced. The direct method of percussion is employed with a small wooden object, such as a lead pencil or a paper knife. The following objects are attained: Size and position are accurately determined. With practice some idea of the gastric tone may be obtained. Roughly speaking, four ounces of fluid will lower the border of the normal stomach about an inch; in atony it may