

as when I was a student, I refer to the hospital wards. Students, while perhaps more scientific—I say scientific, because nowadays every one who spends much of his time in a laboratory learning the use of all kinds of modern apparatus, including our old friend the microscope, is regarded as having a scientific training—I may say that students, while perhaps being more scientific (microscopical and mechanical), have not that intimate personal knowledge of disease which continued observation at the bedside gives them, so that when started in some out-of-the-way place without their scientific machinery, they are like fish out of water. It may soon be that they will not be able to diagnose a fracture without the X-rays, suppuration without an elaborate system of cultures of the various cocci, typhoid fever without the Vidal test, diphtheria without finding the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus, tuberculosis without getting the bacilli in the sputum, and so on without end. Students are not taught to observe so accurately the evident symptoms of disease, and as I say, are becoming mere mechanics who need an armamentarium (which only a great hospital or university can possess) to make an accurate diagnosis of an ordinary disease, the higher and more intellectual means of drawing conclusions by inductive reasoning are almost neglected.

This mode of education may do for the few, but for the many who have to practise away from centres it is not the best method. The reason of it all is that most colleges are now managed by laboratory men who are specialists from the start, and who have never practised medicine, and so have never appreciated the needs of students who, when they graduate, will have to earn their living by attending sick people. The practitioners who are connected with the colleges are too busy, and not living on the premises, so to speak, give up the management gladly to those having more time and having new ideas which they wish to have carried out, especially on laboratory lines. They are eager for original investigations and encourage their men to do such and such a piece of work, forgetting that these men have first to learn the rudiments of a profession by which they have in future to make their living, and that the laboratory work is only a part of their training.

In a recent address delivered at the last meeting of the British Medical Association, Dr. William Japp Sinclair says: "It was the devotion of the gifts of genius, of the highest intellectual endowment, to clinical investigations, which lent dignity to the labors of former generations of physicians and surgeons, and made their counsels fruitful in conferring permanent benefit on humanity. Enlightened and patient industry, and success in ob-