

were a fair day. But many of the Mayos' patients are wealthy people, while many are doctors who are not wealthy, from distant cities, so that there are always some fifteen hundred people in the town who are being observed or operated on, or are convalescing from an operation. The great care taken in diagnosing is one of the elements of their success. The majority of the cases are people who have been suffering for years with what was supposed to be stomach and liver trouble, but the Mayos interpret these symptoms as either gall stones, or appendicitis, or both. They have even had some fifty cases for whom gastro-enterostomy had been performed for supposed pyloric or gastric ulcer, without benefit. In every one of these cases either gall stones or a stone in the appendix were found.

There are generally about twenty doctors visiting their clinic whom they receive most kindly to the number of fifteen hundred a year, so that their influence is becoming very widespread. For the benefit of the latter they have organized a Surgeons' Club, where the visiting surgeons meet every afternoon from four till six, to discuss the cases operated on each morning. Two doctors are chosen to report the cases at each meeting, and these are given special opportunities for seeing and hearing. A few of the doctors stay at the Kahler Hotel, a modern and expensive place, but most of them put up at the Cook House or at private boarding houses, of which there are a great many. In fact, every second private house has two or three or a dozen convalescent patients or visiting physicians as boarders. St. Mary's Hospital has only 175 beds, which are all filled after eight days operating, so that in order to get twenty-four beds they have to send that many out of the hospital every day to hotels and boarding houses, where they are visited by the assistant doctors or by a nurse from the hospital. At each of the hotels several nurses are employed steadily looking after the patients who have been sent out of the hospital. Even the gall-bladder cases go out in ten or twelve days with the drainage tube still in, while the appendicitis cases generally go out in a week. Sometimes want of beds compels them to cut down the number of operations to ten or fifteen a day.

The town has a modern water, electric light and drainage system, and is beautifully kept, having several miles of paved streets, and a public library of its own, having declined Mr. Carnegie's offer to build one for them. St. Mary's Hospital is thoroughly up-to-date with trained nurses, although under the financial control of the Franciscan sisters. The head sister has been Dr. William Mayo's assistant for sixteen years, and she is so proficient that when he stops operating to talk