

service worth paying for. These demands probably arise in part from the exalted ideas the public seem to have of the vast amounts of money a dentist makes, but I think a great part of it is due to the low estimate we have been placing on our own services. A dentist will attack a severe abscess, and after days, and in some cases weeks, of treating, fill canals and tooth, and charge not for the treating of the abscess, but only the regular fee for filling that particular devitalized tooth.

How frequently do we write a prescription for which we never think of charging. Are we not in danger of being taken at our own valuation by the public, and are we doing right in educating them in this direction? It is the belief of the essayist that the beloved public value professional services, whether in the form of prescription or operation, at just what it costs them, and until we rise in our own estimate of our work we will not rise in the estimation of our *clientele*. It is scarcely necessary for me to more than mention that other anomaly, the using of secret nostrums in the form of local anæsthetics by men who lay claim to being governed by professional ideas. I would not mention it were I not impressed with the need of emphasizing the warning. Right here in our own city nostrums containing cocain are on sale, and find purchasers. Let us hope that the deathblow of this pernicious and dangerous practice has been struck by the S. S. White Co. by the publishing of the formula of their anæsthetic, and the strongly worded editorial in *Cosmos* of February last. I fully and heartily agree with the editor in his opinion that "the time is fully ripe by reason of the known dangers, incident to such practices, for securing a proper legislative control which shall relieve the community of this menace to life and health, and the profession from a blot upon its record.

"There is no excuse," he says, "for the use of cocain nostrums. Where the drug is used it should be with a full knowledge concerning it, and any properly educated practitioner either has such knowledge or has ready access to it.

"The continued use of cocain nostrums in the light of our present knowledge is simply paying high tribute to the greed of the nostrum-vendor, and dallying with a source of danger which, when its logical result in the form of an accident ensues, should deprive the author of it of all sympathy from his colleagues or mercy from a jury."

The thoughtful reviewer of the present status of dentistry is forcibly impressed with the thought that prosthetic dentistry does not, in these later years, occupy the position its importance would merit. There is a tendency to undervalue this branch of our work. How common it is to hear from the practitioner in the city, "Oh, I don't do much plate work, I seldom am called upon