

spective, which have not yet been sufficiently appreciated.

In support of his assertion Sir James brings forward facts which lead to the conclusion that the brains of many school girls are worked in a manner which is good neither for the healthy development of the mental or physical powers. At one girl's school where he had been permitted to make inquiries, he found that out of 187 girls belonging to the upper and middle classes, well-fed and clad and cared for, and ranging from 10 to 17 years of age, as many as 137 complained of headaches, which in 65 instances occurred occasionally, in 48 frequently, and in 24 habitually. He cited the authority of Sir Richard Owen for the position that children have no business with headaches, and that something must be wrong in the school in which they frequently suffer from them. If, as he believes, girls are frequently engaged until past ten o'clock at night in preparing their school tasks, it is easy to understand that a state of brain strain is induced which is fatal to normal sleep, and is destructive of breakfast appetite. When a girl is unable to eat a hearty breakfast Sir James considers that she ought not to be allowed to undertake her school work for that day, and we think most medical men will agree with him. Loss of appetite for one's breakfast is often the first indication of health giving away, and to force girls to hard brain work when the digestive organs have struck must end in disaster.

Referring to the recent action of the St. Andrew's University in throwing open the classes in arts, science and theology to women, Sir James said he regarded it as a retrograde and mischievous step, for "what was decided amongst the prehistoric protozoa cannot be annulled by Act of Parliament; and the essential difference between male and female cannot be obliterated at a sweep of the pen by any *Senatus Academicus*." The tall, graceful and lovely English girls whom we meet now and again are, he remarked, the offspring of mothers who were denied the advantages of a "High School" education. It is depressing to think what the next generation of English girls will be like. "I once" he said, "saw a vision that has haunted me ever since. It was a score of sweet girl graduates from a celebrated college standing together in a group on the platform of a provincial railway station, waiting for trains to carry them home at the end of the term. Sweet, they were, I doubt not; most of them carried musical instruments, but they were not, upon the whole—well, not just—'fairest of the fair' to look upon. I am afraid I shall be called ribald and profane, but I should describe them as pantaloone-like girls, for many of them had a stooping gait and withered appearance, shrunk shanks, and spectacles on nose. Let us conserve

the beauty of our English girls very jealously. I would rather they remained ignorant of logarithms than that they lost a jot of it."

This is a melancholy outlook we admit, but we would fain hope that withered, shrunken-shanked girls will always be a poor miserable minority and be rarely met with except among town dwellers. Those who are responsible for the education of girls will, no doubt, in most cases also provide for the needs of physical development, but even if in the higher circles of society that is neglected, we may be sure that a sufficient number of healthy well-developed women will be found in the lower walks of life, especially in rural districts, to ensure the propagation of the species under as favorable conditions as have ever obtained in the history of the human race.

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CREOSOTE IN PHTHISIS.—In a new communication on this subject the writer reaffirms the convictions expressed by him in previous papers as to the great value of this remedy. He finds that it relieves cough, lessens expectoration, improves nutrition and lessens the number of bacilli even to extinction. The physical signs show evidences of a lessened area of damaged pulmonary tissue, and even the occlusion of small cavities.

What are the drawbacks? what the contra-indications in the use of creosote? Does it ever work harmful results? The objections to the use of creosote are few; and if any occur, they are usually obviated by a little judgment and good sense. Occasionally the stomach becomes intolerant. This is shown either by headache, inappetence, and a sluggish feeling in the performance of usual duties; or there is slight pain or uneasiness in the region of the stomach, evidently brought on by the action of creosote. These ill-effects are frequently occasioned by a too rapid increase of the dose, by a faulty method of administration, or by some evident personal idiosyncrasy; or, indeed, the true explanation is simply that there is an irritative or weak stomachal condition connected with the presence of tubercular deposit in the lungs, and dependent on catarrhal gastritis, or a possible atrophy of the gastric tubules. The remedy of this state is not far to seek. Diminish the dose of the remedy for a time, or in extreme cases interrupt its use for a while, and resume prescribing it in small and slowly increasing doses, and more frequently repeated, only after a period of complete rest from taking it. If diarrhoea be occasioned by its use, the same rules apply, or, indeed an appropriate opiate may be added in small amount to each dose with good effect, so far as toleration is concerned.

In regard to the alleged effect of creosote on the kidneys, Robinson expresses himself as follows: Usually the ordinary tests for creosote do not