

United States. He was a keen-eyed business man. After dinner the conversation drifted to methods of keeping track of various data. On my asking him a question he took me back to the dining room in his private car and opened the buffet which in former years was usually stocked with viands, and showed me his card catalogue dealing with all phases of the road. In other compartments he had complete data of every piece of work being done on the entire road, also up-to-date statistics relating to the number and character of the employees of the road. This was a working office of the entire road where he could transact business no matter whether his car was lying on a siding or in a city distant to the home office, where a duplicate set of papers and files were kept. This railroad manager, no matter where he happened to be, was always ready at a moment's notice to satisfactorily transact his company's business.

Hospital management in years past was notoriously lax, but in recent times business methods have been introduced into many of the newer institutions. It would do all medical men good to visit up-to-date business houses and see the card index systems and the various short-cut methods employed in every day business. It would also be admirable for the trustees of the various hospitals to see to it that the same systematic and business-like methods are used in the registration of data in the hospitals with which they are connected, as they employ in their individual business. I cannot help thinking of the Episcopal clergyman in New York, who had as his board of trustees several wide-awake business men. On one occasion it took them several hours to discuss the expenditure of a few hundred dollars. Finally the clergyman in despair leaned over and whispered to one of the trustees, "How would you handle such a proposition in your business?" This trustee replied that such small matters never came to his attention. The ludicrous side of the situation suddenly dawned upon him. Here he and his brother trustees, all millionaires, were spending hours worrying over trivial matters—that would in their business offices be attended to by junior clerks. The trustee immediately moved that the rector be given authority once and for all to order what was necessary for the church, and to send in the bills to them. The trustees of the hospital and the various members of the medical staff are in some measure in a similar position to that board of trustees. Their time is too valuable to be continually taken up in routine, but it is their duty to see to it that competent clerks are employed to keep careful records of all patients entering the