

THE PHYSICIAN'S FEE.

The Medical Record expresses an admirable opinion: Those who discuss this subject frequently miss the essence of it. Under present social conditions the charge made to the wealthy and well to do is the normal and proper fee; the lowered charges, made to those less fortunate, are concessions. The tremendous field of the physician's charity is therefore usually underestimated, for it extends to a great majority of his patients. In olden times, when medicine was nearly all art and but little science the fee was unknown; like other artists the leech received an honorarium, the weight of which depends naturally upon the patient's resources. The popular impression that the physician makes the rich pay for the poor is incorrect; they extend their services to all alike and all are supposed to pay as much as they can afford for services really priceless and impossible to represent adequately in money values. Any attempt made to establish standard fees by law is sure to work injustice to physicians; the standard fee would have to be much higher than the average fee at present and there would have to be some method of enforcing its sure payment. Only with the standard fixed, as now, by the ability of the wealthy is it possible for the poor to receive the benefits of the highest professional skill without losing their self-respect.—*Medical Times*, August, 1911.

COST OF MILK.

The *Rural New Yorker* has been inquiring of the superintendents of the public institutions of New York how much it costs to produce milk whose cows are kept for that purpose. Very briefly stated (in cents by the quart) the following are the replies received:

Hudson River state hospital	2.33
Gowanda state hospital	2.52
St. Lawrence state hospital	3.03
Utica state hospital	3.17
Rome state hospital	2.75
State industrial school	1.55
Ginghamton state hospital, less than two cents.	

OBLIGATORY ANTI-TYPHOID INOCULATIONS.

The entire army of the United States, officers and men alike, 76,000 in all, are to be inoculated against typhoid fever—that is, all under 45