

has studied problems of the brain, must be aware that mentally defective children present many special mental faults. This educational experiment is on a line with modern thought, and if a process of curing recognized mental incapacities can be achieved for a new generation, a truly great advance will be brought about, and more especially as the presence among normal children, of those mentally deficient, is a most serious obstacle to educational progress. This educational recommendation is welcome as evidence of a progressive spirit in mental development, and that in due time the example will be widespread in Canada.

The scientific world of medicine is well represented in Oxford, England, by Sir Wm. Osler, whose recent address at Glasgow, on "High Blood Pressure" is of deep interest. At the present day this subject is passing rapidly around world-wide scientific circles. Life insurance associations have grasped the sphygmograph and demand blood pressure tests in all life policies at the present time. The force with which blood circulates is the pendulum regulating the organic activity of the entire system. What a propelling power the heart pump is, and throughout the varied vicissitudes of life, almost unobserved. How few think of the relief to a heart occasional rest in the recumbent posture imparts a change from the uphill pumping process of daily life, fatiguing, tiring and exhausting, frequently placed in sad record, by death from heart failure. This is a chief point where the untiring and strenuous efforts of the profession are tested, and valuable lives so frequently cut short, at the 50th to 54th year—Gibson, of Edinburgh. 54; Sir James Sympson, 58; Pepper, Philadelphia, 50; Wright, Ottawa, 52, in fact, numerous professional lights in middle life and prime. How true is the aphorism, "A man's life may be said to be a gift of his blood pressure, just as Egypt is a gift of the Nile." What an important function the vasomotor centres play in regulating the average pressure, in various sections of the body, in fact, the nervous system is the hoop that holds the varied staves of the system together. "The advantages of a trace of albumen and a few tube casts, in the urine of men at 50 years of age,"* aroused the thoughtfulness of our generation. The opinion is now accepted, that the presence of these abnormal products does not always indicate serious disease, or unnecessary alarm. Just in the same line, high blood pressure in a strong, vigorous and robust constitution requires a careful and judicious expression of opinion. What does permanent high blood pressure mean? Here everything is in a nutshell, as defined by Osler. High tension without signs of arterial or renal disease. High tension with renal, heart changes, and arterio-sclerosis, and chronic nephritis, with secondary high pres-

*Paper by Osler.