

Publishers' Department

SAFETY RAZOR BLADE SCALPEL.—*The Journal of the American Medical Association* publishes a short article by Dr. J. B. Murphy, of Chicago, containing a suggestion for using safety razor blades as scalpels. The ordinary scalpel is often found to be dull and, even if sharp at first, the edge is affected by a few strokes in resistant tissues such as old scars. Dr. Murphy has therefore devised handles to hold the two types of razor blade generally met with—the double-edged like the Gillette pattern, or the single-edged such as the Autostrop—and states that he has used them in all his work for some time past and found them satisfactory. This invention solves the ever present problem of what we shall do with our old blades, or at least transfers the burden of its solution to the shoulders of others.

BE A PLUMBER.—In choosing a profession, der most lucrative—law, medicine or der ministry—is plumbing. In der first place, der brofession of plumbing is a pipe. Sometimes it is a cluster of pipes or a einch, to speag plain oudt. All you haf got to know in order to be a graduate plumber is to haf enough sense to gather your kit of tools and go vare someding is leaking or stobbed up. After your tools haf done der vork for you, you send in your bill or take a mortgage on der broperty, wieh is der same t'ing. After taking a first mortgage on der house, you vait patiently for der next leak, und den der house pecomes yours. Any conservative plumber vot ain't too greedy kin own any broperty on two leaks of der pipe und vun catarrh of der spigot. In fact der only difference between a plumber und a highwayman is dot der plumber ain't afraid to use his lead pipe on der premises. Vat is der use of studying four years at scollege to learn to earn a modest lifing ven you kin git \$20 for take a frozen fish out of a water pipe. Furthermore, a plumber takes a squint under a sink and charges \$10, but a physieian has to look at you ten times to make dot amount. A plumber kin make more money wiping a single joint den a doctor kin setting two joints or a minister condemning four joints, or a bolice department raiding six joints. In plumbing der ideals might not pe so high, but employment in der cellar is steadier.—*Exchange.*