

Even respectable lodge physicians feel a sense of degradation in giving their services for 15 cents on the dollar; and the ever-increasing spread of these alleged charitable institutions is absolutely destructive to the business of other physicians.

The main incentive of the persons who band themselves together in lodges is to get cheap doctoring; they are willing to take but not to give. They belong to protective unions, and the same right should not be denied physicians. Ninety-nine per cent. of these people are able to pay reasonable fees to physicians, but will not do so as long as a few doctors in every community for the sake of immediate gain can be induced to stand as driven guys to the lodge politicians. No preacher or lawyer would give his services to these people for 15 cents on the dollar. No grocery store or merchandise firm would contract to supply these lodges with goods at 15 cents on the dollar of actual worth.

The remedy indicated in the subjoined resolutions is simple and manifestly efficacious, depending upon the personal honor and free will of those concerned. Where one doctor temporarily profits by contract work, the business and ethical rights of fifty others are violated; hence an overwhelming *esprit de corps* is created among physicians which will sustain a strict observance of the pledge.

LINCOLN COTHRAN, M.D.,
Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS.

Adopted by the Physicians of Santa Clara County.

WHEREAS, Rendering professional services at a stipulated fee per capita per annum is derogatory to the dignity of the medical profession, we, the undersigned physicians and surgeons of Santa Clara County, California, enter into the following agreement:

FIRST.—We mutually, jointly, and individually, pledge our word of honor not to enter into any contract or agreement, or renew any existing contract or agreement, either written, verbal or implied, to render medical or surgical services to any lodge, society, association or organization.