

under special ethical obligations. Simply to procure the relief of his patient from "the effects of a drunken 'bout'" is only to do one part of what is required of the physician. The other, and far more important, part of his work is to give his patient such advice as may enable him to acquire a sufficiently strong will to overcome his craving appetite for intoxicating beverages.

The somewhat unique duties of the medical citizen place him under ethical obligations regarding matters pertaining to religion, education and legislation. His technical knowledge has nothing to do with mere creed distinctions, but it has to do with the spiritual welfare of his patients. Knowing the character of the illness the physician is under ethical obligations to see that his patient receives all the consolation and help religion can render. Who of us have not suffered from "pangs of conscience" when patients have died suddenly, without, so far as we knew, any thought about the needs of the souls that passed on into eternity? Are we strictly ethical when we concentrate all our attention on trying to save the body, without giving any consideration to the needs of the immortal soul? Each reader must satisfy his own conscience on this matter.

On many questions pertaining to education the advice of the medical citizen may be of great value. He, rather than the teacher, is the better fitted to judge the amount and character of work the child should have. He should note any complaint parents make in regard to the progress their children are making at school. How often teachers are blamed unjustly for the backwardness of children, when a physical examination by the physician would quickly reveal the cause. Thousands of children have had their education impaired through inattention on the part of the family physician. He should see if any child in the family is deaf, has impaired sight, or is a mouth breather, and insist on any such being properly treated. Many children are rendered indolent, irritable and incorrigible through these physical defects. Very pronounced mental and moral changes for the better may follow the removal of adenoids and enlarged tonsils. The physician may confer a great boon on both child and parent by indicating the calling the former is best adapted for.

The ethical obligations of the medical citizen as to legislation are based on the character of his knowledge. He is the special custodian of much information essential to the needs of the state. The medical inspection of immigrants, the care of the inmates in such public institutions as asylums, sanatoria, hospitals, etc., would be most imperfect without the aid of the medical citizen.