

those who never do any club practice. Have they not learned by this time these very lodge patients despise them for doing a club practice; in their hearts have no confidence in the lodge doctor.

We verily believe that the monster curse on the medical profession to-day is this one of lodge practice. It has done more to lower the standard of medical dignity, break down medical ethics, cheapen the calling and cause jealousies and heartburnings among medical men than all the other conditions of practice put together.

We can recall the names of many physicians who have given up lodge practice and who assure us that their income did not suffer, but rather increased. If physicians would only look at this abuse in the proper way, it would not last long. Why should doctors attend for a dollar a year men who are in receipt of a weekly stipend, and paying off or owning a house? Why should doctors sell their independence for the miserable remuneration they are paid? Why should they allow themselves to be pitted against each other in unseemly annual elections? Why should they cater to the whims of the lodge-room and the more ignorant and talkative members in these lodges? Surely, surely, this whole thing is wrong. Take a doctor with five lodges with a membership of 365. This would yield a revenue of only \$1 a day to the doctor; without the lodge he can easily make up this amount by other means. For this it is quite safe to say he renders services for double the amount. In addition, he puts himself in a menial position in the sight of the members.

There can be no objection to any physician acting as examiner to a society; but with this his connection should cease. On no account is it wise to become the salaried doctor at so much a head, and subject to all kinds of abuse and misrepresentation, with the liability of being voted out at the earliest opportunity. Then just think of one doctor lying in wait for the annual election in order to get even with another doctor who secured the appointment the year before!

Some doctors think that the lodges bring them the family practice. This is not true. For one family gained by them they lose several. No physician ever yet built up a family practice on the strength of the lodges.

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