

STUDY AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY.

The second annual meeting of the American Association for the Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality was held at Chicago on Nov. 16, 17 and 18 of last year. This association was organized on Nov. 10, 1909, as the result of a conference on the prevention of infant mortality held in New Haven, Conn., by the American Academy of Medicine. The proceedings of this conference were fully described at the time in an editorial in the issue of the JOURNAL for Nov. 18, 1909 (vol. 161, p. 754).

The purposes of the association, as summarized by Dr. William H. Welch, are as follows:

"To educate and enlighten the public. To stimulate better sanitary organization and administration throughout the country. To urge the organization of a Federal Department of Health. To promote more adequate registration of births. To correlate existing activities now working independently. To stimulate investigation into causes of infant mortality. To formulate a definite programme of prevention."

Since its organization, the association has continued zealously in pursuit of these purposes. At its recent session there were section meetings on birth registration, city milk supply, continuation schools in home-making eugenics, midwifery, nurses' associations and social workers. Dr. L. Emmett Holt, of New York, and Dr. J. H. Mason Knox, of Baltimore, discussed the relative value of existing methods of preventing infant mortality, and Dr. Hastings H. Hart, of the Russell Sage Foundation, described the work of similar organizations in Europe. Other addresses were made by President Jordan, of Leland Stanford University; by Professor Davenport, of the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution; by Dr. George B. Young, health commissioner of Chicago; and by Dr. James Lincoln Huntington, of Boston.—*Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.*, Nov. 23rd.

MICHAEL SERVETUS.

In the year 1511 there was born at Tudela, Spanish Navarre, the celebrated Michael Servetus (Miguel Servet), who, with William Harvey, must be considered the discoverer of the circulation of the blood. According to others, his birthplace was Villanueva, Aragon, and the year is given as 1509. In his nineteenth year he left Spain and entered the University of Toulouse to study law, where he became acquainted with the teachings of Luther, and after a few months, spent, however,