

TO DETERMINE SEX.—Professor Schenk, well known to American students as the head of the Embryological Institute in Vienna, has announced that after twenty years' study of the question he is now prepared to tell how to determine and regulate the sex of offspring, and will do so in a communication to the Academy of Science.—*Medical Record*.

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CLINICAL RECORDS.—A hedge doctor (a quack) in Ireland was being examined at an inquest on his treatment of a patient who had died. "I gave him ipecacuanha," he said. "You might just as well have given him the *aurora borealis*," said the coroner. "Indade, yer honor, and that's just what I should have given him next, if he hadn't died."—*St. Thomas Hospital Gazette*.

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THE difference between ancient and modern slang was amusingly illustrated in a recent incident at the Chautauqua Assembly, when the teacher of English literature asked, "What is the meaning of the Shakesperean phrase, 'Go to?'" and a member of the class replied, "Oh, that is only the sixteenth-century expression of the modern term 'Come off!'" The two phrases, while apparently opposite, do, in fact, substantially mean the same thing.—*Chicago Chronicle*.

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AS DIRECTED.—The best memory is fallible, and with the increase of patients and the multiplicity of incidental demands, the duplication of prescriptions, and a brief record of all cases demanding more than incidental and transient attention, are well nigh necessities. Give no superfluous directions; insist on obedience to the letter. When practicable make them in writing as well as verbally, and be sure of a perfect correspondence.

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OFFICE BORES.—It is a general belief that the poor doctor is always overjoyed when a patient, no matter of what kind, enters his office to swell his coffers. The number of bores that constantly beset him and tap his energies through the exasperating conduits of long and uninteresting accounts of trial ailments is never taken into account. Aside from his strain of self-control, and the enervating influences of smiling dissimulation, there is a special harm to the victimized adviser's sympathies in the engendering of a retaliatory unconcern in the patient's present condition and an indifference to its final ending.—*Medical Record*.