

the matter of hospital extension and library work. There is no doubt that, if successful in their undertaking, research work will receive a great impetus. While it may seem a matter of great renown for him who succeeds in the field of research and gives to the world something new, it is no less praiseworthy for him whose lifework consists in administering all that is latest and best for the relief of human suffering. There may be a scintillation of truth in the fact that if a man has little desire to enter the field of research before middle life he is not likely to do much after, but it is an incontrovertible fact so far as the application of what is already known to be beneficial, to be helpful for the relief of suffering humanity, the powers of the physician, his experience, his judgment, his power of discernment, increases as the years roll on and do not cease until disease or a ripe old age superannuates him. The author of "Bonnie Brier Bush" tells us that it created a scandal in his country for any citizen to "slip awa" before sixty, and that persons above ninety were understood to be acquitting themselves with credit and brushed aside the opinion of seventy as immature.

You will agree with me, I am sure, that the sum of human happiness could be materially increased by the stamping out of some preventable disease—diseases that may be totally avoided, diseases that are under the control of the individual and society. The gynecologist, the genito-urinary surgeons, the neurologist, will tell you that a great deal of their work is due to the gonococcus and syphilis. What diseases more loathsome? You will admit, I am sure, that these are preventable diseases. What diseases are more contagious? What diseases leave their dire results in the human system more than these do to be handed down to the third and fourth generation? And yet they are preventable, wholly preventable. It is not for me to discuss the phases of social life that produce these, but in many instances useful, innocent lives should be protected. It is true in the practice of our profession, in operations on the syphilitic numbers have been inoculated and lives of usefulness marred. What more obnoxious than a syphilitic with mucous patches or an epithelioma on his lips, or a specific sore throat, offering his pipe to a comrade or participating in the Communion in any of the Christian Churches where the individual cup is not used. I feel sure if the laity could understand the disastrous results of oral sepsis, there would be no dissenting voice in the use of the individual Communion cup. The physician can evidently curtail much misery, but he needs the help of the public to stamp it out altogether. It needs a greater concern on the part of everyone in social and moral reforms, a cultivation of higher ideals. You may attribute it to ignorance or want of education. These are but scapegoats. If it is due to want of education, then let me say that the people of our large centres are lamentably ignorant, and