

This inferior business instinct also shows itself in a false professional pride. The laity generally rank a physician according to the location and beauty of his office and the size of his consultation fee, and very many members of the profession are unable to get rid of the same pernicious idea. As a consequence the aspirant invests his income in an expensive office, charges an exclusive fee, and fritters away hours in idleness rather than accept the smaller sums which he might have. Such a policy is good business for a few, but there are not rich patients enough for all, and if one adopts the plan he should do it with the clear understanding that the chances are distinctly against him. After all, the ones who lead the busiest, happiest professional lives, who do the most good in the world, and who leave the most behind, are the ones who have the least of this false professional pride.

While it may be good business policy to have an office in an exclusive neighborhood, by it insuring larger fees and a more exclusive practice, the same reasoning does not apply to a residence in the same neighborhood unless it be amply within one's means. Of course the physician likes to have his family live well and enjoy the society of many of the people who are his patients, but when, on an income of five thousand, he tries to live next to and like the banker on a hundred thousand, he pays a ruinous price.

Certain portions of our large cities are crowded with physicians attempting just this thing. They have the superficial appearance of prosperity; their families are apparently perfectly secured against want and live in style only justified by quadruple the income. After the funeral it transpires that the utmost endeavor has paid the rent or kept up the interest, while the family living has been made from the renting of furnished rooms.—*N. Y. State Journal of Medicine.*

Poisoned to Save Expense.

A Chinese boy was brought into the Peking Hospital terribly injured by a heavy log falling upon him. The doctors, to save his life, cut off his leg. The mother came, apparently to help nurse the lad. The patient, however, almost immediately afterwards died, and expert examination showed that his mother had given him arsenic. Her reason, it is supposed (says the *Indian Medical Gazette*) was to prevent her son from the disgrace of reaching the next world in a maimed condition. This is a very strong point with the Chinese, who always pickle an amputated member to have it buried with them when they eventually die. In this instance, the family being poor and a whole leg being difficult to pickle, the simpler course was taken of poisoning the boy, so that he and his leg might go together.—*British and Colonial Druggist.*