

in opposing such a suggestion remarks: "How many chiropractors in Indiana to-day could qualify under that rule? I believe that the total number able to comply with that ruling would be less than 2 per cent. of all the chiropractors in the State." The following correspondence, however, between a prospective student and the representative of the "Carver Chiropractic College," Oklahoma City, affords, perhaps, a more striking illustration of the type of student that these colleges are willing to admit within their walls:

"Sirs, Mister Kirpatic School. I want to rite letter an see if i can be Kirpatic dr. if you can make a Kirpatic dr. for how much money i got about 2 thousand dolers that my husband got wen he died from the insurance company. . . . My husband die with apensitis in his side an drs. say it to late after they operate an lots of pus an Kirpatic dr. say he could cure him if i had called him. . . ."

"Dear Madam. Your most interesting letter stating that you were very much interested in the study of the subject of chiropractic and reciting the incidence leading to the death of your husband and the information that you had received from some of your Chiropractic Doctor friends that his death was all unnecessary, had a Chiropractic Doctor waited on him, instead of an M.D. While your education may be limited you have intelligence and the determination and sufficient education to understand the English language you would have no difficulty in getting a knowledge of this subject so that you could go out and practice and be efficient."

This student, after eighteen months' "study," would be entitled to the degree of D.C. (Doctor of Chiropractic), or, after an additional six months, to that of Ph.C. (Philosopher of Chiropractic), and would then be let loose on society.

It is difficult to believe that, if the public were made acquainted with the facts above related, these cults would succeed in making much headway in this country. The causes of their phenomenal success on the continent of America would form an interesting subject for study, but that does not come within the scope of this article.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

150TH ANNIVERSARY.

An illuminating entry in the minutes of the quarterly court of Middlesex Hospital for 1774 states that, the students having formed themselves into a medical society, the court unanimously agreed to let them have the use of the physicians' room for two nights a week "provided the Society would be at the expense of their own candles." The 150th anniversary of the same Society was held on May 22nd, 1924, when something brighter than candle-light shone upon a distinguished company gathered in the two theatres, where, thanks to telephonic transmission, the meeting was held simultaneously, while the senior common room, the dean's room, the research institute, and the museum were given up to exhibitions, and in the students' common room dancing went on until midnight.

The 150th annual meeting was held, with every formality as to minutes and so forth, under the presidency of Dr. G. E. BEAUMONT, and a reminiscent address was delivered by Sir JAMES KINGSTON FOWLER, who was President of the Society nearly forty years ago.

He claimed that the Society was the oldest hospital medical society in London. Notwithstanding its great age it had retained the vigour of youth, for it had realized that youth could only be preserved by work, and during its long life it had been a working society of the students of the hospital. He went on to speak of some of the old worthies, the first of whom, one of the founders of the Society, was James Moncrieff Arnott, in every sense of the word a truly great man, while another was Sir Thomas Watson, physician to the hospital from 1827 to 1843, who became afterwards President of the Royal College of Physicians. From Sir Thomas Watson it was an easy transition to Dr. (afterwards Sir) George Johnson, his own first master in medicine, who assisted in the preparation of the last edition of *Watson's Lectures*. Johnson was a master of the stethoscope, and the speaker considered that his clinical teaching with regard to the function of the arterioles remained as sound to-day as it was fifty years ago.

Sir James Fowler went on to recall a gallery of names of men who had served the Society. Among others he mentioned Andrew Clark, president at the date of the centenary; Alexander Patrick Stewart, the first to differentiate typhoid from typhus

fever; William Cayley, upon whose tablet in the chapel were the simple words "the beloved physician"; John Whitaker Hulke and George Lawson, both of whom served in the Crimea; George Critchett, renowned in ophthalmology; Thomas Henry Kellock, of whom the records state that "he died in the service of the hospital"; John James Pringle, incomparable as a teacher of his chosen subject and ever the faithful friend of the students; Robert Wishart Lyell and Charles Leopold Hudson, whose services were recalled in the prizes which bore their names; and Alfred Pearce Gould, his own friend and colleague for more than thirty years. Turning to the history of the last fifty years, the lecturer enumerated some of the changes which had taken place in medicine and allied departments of science. Of changes which had come through the old method of clinical observation, the first which he recalled was the introduction of salicylic acid and the salicylates for the treatment of acute rheumatism. To William Cayley, whom he regarded as the greatest physician with whom he had the privilege of association, they owed the introduction into this country of the cold-bath treatment of typhoid fever, which entirely transformed the clinical aspect of that disease, and led him (the speaker) to evolve the dictum that "the typhoid state is the state into which no typhoid patient should ever be allowed to get." He also touched on the brilliant and fascinating chapter in the history of medicine which had to do with diseases of the thyroid gland. Among the many changes in medical practice which had occurred since 1874 few had been more marked than in the use of alcohol in disease. At King's College Hospital fifty years ago every patient with pneumonia was, on admission and as a matter of course, ordered 8 oz. of brandy in the twenty-four hours, and this might be increased to 10 oz. or 14 oz., and sometimes champagne was ordered in addition. But if one word could recall the greatest triumphs of medical science since the Society celebrated its centenary it would be "research," and here he described the work and ideals of the Bland-Sutton Institute of Pathology.

He concluded his address with the remark that it was possible that one of those to whom he was now speaking might, when the Society celebrated the completion of its two hundred years of honoured life, stand in his place and recall the great deeds of science which had marked the fifty years which then had come to an end, and he did not doubt that such a one would be able to point to far greater triumphs than had been recalled to their minds that evening. But it must never be forgotten that the art and practice of medicine in every age had to do with human nature, which changed but slowly, and would never rise above the need for sympathy and kindness in times of sickness or when about to enter the realms of the eternal silence.

Sir ANDERSON CRITCHETT, in proposing a vote of thanks to Sir James Fowler, said that the lecturer had re-peopled that old theatre for him, and had made its walls echo again to the voices of many revered teachers. Sir Anderson was a member of the committee which arranged the centenary celebration of the Society in 1874, and he described some of the features of that occasion. A concert was held at which some Covent Garden singers were present, and next morning he met an enthusiastic house-surgeon who said to him, "This centenary celebration has been such a success, I vote we have another next year." The speaker had dreamed of succeeding his father as ophthalmic surgeon to the hospital, and for a time he was his father's assistant, but he was led away by the temptation of beds. Middlesex could afford at that time only six beds for the ophthalmic department, St. Mary's offered fourteen. What was he to do? During the time he was ophthalmic assistant at Middlesex he had as his pupil a surgeon whom Middlesex delighted to honour—now the President of the Royal College of Surgeons. He taught John Bland-Sutton many errors—but they were errors of refraction! Only a few months ago Dr. Maitland Ramsay informed him that Bland-Sutton had been so fascinated by his (Sir Anderson's) father's wonderful teaching and his skill as an operator that he resolved himself to become an ophthalmologist; only some pathological appointment which accidentally came his way turned him from his determination. One great figure of Middlesex whom the speaker recalled was Campbell De Morgan, who was on the very brink of anticipating Lister, because at the time the speaker was his dresser De Morgan was convinced that there was some suppurating germ at work, and all his wounds were washed with sulphurous acid. He was not only a great surgeon but a wit.

Dr. C. E. LAKIN seconded the vote of thanks in an amusing speech; and the company then adjourned to look over an interesting historical exhibition which had been got together. The exhibits included a number of portraits of founders of the School and other great men of Middlesex, in particular Sir Charles Bell, whose original drawings were shown, also statuettes modelled by him, his original private case-book, and other relics. The minute books, records, and students' registers of the Medical School since its foundation were also open to inspection.