

The program for the coming season is as follows:

September Meeting will be a banquet in some convenient place with some prominent speaker on the subject:—"The obligation of the medical profession in the present economic crisis."

October Meeting: Fundamental Economic Principles—Dr. Hobson.

November Meeting: Street car fare, the crowded car, strap-hanging and other conditions detrimental to the health of women—Dr. Hunt.

December Meeting: Safe-guarding the Interests of Women in the New State Constitution—Dr. Paine.

January Meeting: Conditions of Women in the Police Stations and Jails—Dr. Strawn.

February Meeting: Commitment of the Insane—Dr. Hanks.

March Meeting: Housing of the Destitute Poor—Dr. Beers.

April Meeting: Minimum Living Wage for Women, and the Ill-Fed School Child—Dr. Cornell.

SOUTHERN HOMEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING.

The next annual meeting of the Southern Association will be held at Cincinnati, Ohio, November 19, 20 and 21. Owing to war conditions, the annual meeting of 1918 was postponed. It was intended in 1918 to hold the meeting at Knoxville, Tennessee. Because of the continued high cost of travel, the Executive Committee decided in the interest of the membership, which is scattered over a wide area, to hold the next meeting at a more easily available place. Cincinnati may be reached very readily by a large number of homeopathic physicians, as it is on a direct line from the south, east and middle west.

The Executive Committee is diligently at work, preparing for an enthusiastic meeting after an interval of two years. At Cincinnati, the Local Committee is well under way with plans that will add much to the program. The homeopathic physicians of that city have extended to the Association a warm welcome, and there is good reason to believe that the next meeting will be one of the greatest in its history. For the public meeting at the beginning of the sessions, speakers have been

secured who are well informed regarding the good work of the homeopathic school. During the scientific sessions, special attention will be given to important features in the department of *materia medica*, and a full list of other bureaus will be ably represented.

Following are the bureau heads:

Materia Medica—Dr. A. E. Hinsdale, Columbus, Ohio.

Clinical Medicine and Practice—Dr. A. L. Smethers, Anderson, S. C.

Surgery—Dr. Claude A. Burrett, Columbus, Ohio.

Gynecology—Dr. Ernest F. Sappington, Washington, D. C.

Obstetrics—Dr. Gilbert Fitz-Patrick, Chicago, Illinois.

Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat—Dr. Gilbert F. Palen, Philadelphia, Penna.

Sanitary Science—Dr. Spencer R. Stone, Atlanta, Georgia.

Officers of the Association are:

President—Dr. Henry M. Stevenson, Baltimore, Md.

1st Vice President—Dr. J. L. Jennings, Danville, Va.

2nd Vice President—Dr. F. L. Juett, Lexington, Ky.

Corresponding Secretary—Dr. A. L. Smethers, Anderson, S. C.

Secretary-Treasurer—Dr. F. A. Swartwout, Washington, D. C.

The Executive Committee earnestly solicits the interest of all members and of all homeopathic physicians in this meeting. Some will be requested to write papers, and the largest possible attendance is desired. With a greater chance for progress now than ever, the success of all society meetings is important. The public now is more ready to learn regarding the capable work done in various fields by the homeopathic school, of its especial methods which are so valuable in the treatment of disease. The people must be told more of the exceptional opportunities which this school offers to young men and women who contemplate entering the profession of medicine.

During the recent war, our School stood staunchly by the Government. Officials of the American Institute of Homeopathy remained permanently at Washington throughout the war, where they worked with the War Department and with the Navy Office to organize our Homeopathic forces for the Government. A large number of Homeopathic physicians sacrificed their personal interests, and did duty as medical officers in the

military service, acquitting themselves creditably in a wide range of activities. These men demonstrated their fine personal ability, and they proved the high grade methods of training that are practiced by our homeopathic colleges.

During the stress of war, the country was afflicted by the most ravaging epidemic of disease that has occurred in its history. In this epidemic, thousands of homeopathic physicians were called upon for unusual service, in which their efforts were blessed with exceptional success. A multitude of people, who by them were treated, will forever remember with appreciative admiration the devoted, capable service accorded. The value of homeopathic remedies in the treatment of influenza and its complications, the ability of these remedies to carry so many cases through to recovery without complications, confirmed the belief of homeopathic patrons in the work of this school; and to those who for the first time employed homeopathy, a creditable example of its efficiency was afforded.

These circumstances should be presented at every homeopathic meeting. This will be done at the annual meeting of the Southern Association, and every homeopathic physician of wide experience will by his presence and well prepared participation in the discussions, aid in promoting this well merited publicity. A little time sacrificed in this connection will do much for the school.

The more general confidence that now obtains in homeopathy and the wider interest in its work, have created for the writer and speaker on this subject a more sympathetic audience, and one with an increased desire to learn regarding this method of treatment. If properly utilized, these circumstances improve the opportunity to accomplish what is so much needed by our school, a largely increased number of students for our homeopathic colleges. Every doctor who is sincerely interested in accomplishing this matter, should give to it earnest consideration, so that during the meeting at Cincinnati there may be evolved a practical, productive plan for assuring in future, a permanently increasing number of students.

It is intended to make this vital, necessary increase of the student body, the main object of the Cincinnati meeting. It is intended that this all-important subject shall not be disposed of by hurried, perfunctory handling. The marked decline numerically of medical students in both schools of medicine is

entirely realized. Unless this condition is effectively corrected, even the meeting of medical societies soon will pass, for at the present rate of decline, there will in time remain but a corporal's guard of their members. Not a great stretch of the vision is required to see that eventually, the medical profession would be superseded by a collection of various cults, all more or less fantastic, and none of them capable of caring for human health.

So for homeopathy we propose, at this moment most favorable to its particular interests, to plan a way that will help save it from extinction, and that will help save the people of this nation from its loss. In its important and manifold complexities, this project will require the help of all, so hour by hour and day by day, if necessary, the subject of more students for homeopathic colleges will at the Southern meeting be considered. We believe that at this juncture there is no matter of so great importance to the medical profession as is the securing of sufficient students. Likewise we believe that it is vitally important to secure a full quota of students for our homeopathic colleges. Full time may well be spared to accomplish this. Society meetings are wonderfully helpful in continuing our professional education, and much effort and time should be spent in their preparation and conduct. But with our supply of recruits steadily diminishing, how long in future will we be able to marshal such meetings? Officers and directors we will yet for a time have in abundance, but what of the rank and file, the heart of these meetings, the mainstay of the profession? Considering the damaging circumstances that have long beset the medical profession, we would in every society meeting, great and small, do well to gather together our forces and then devote every hour if necessary to rehabilitating our school.

In our ranks are many men and women who are capable of giving aid to this project. Most of them would be able and willing to produce an individual quota of one student. Returning to the old plan of a preceptorship, somewhat modified, each one could from his clientele secure one young man or one young woman for the profession of medicine. By personal attention, by personal association which is valuable not only to the student, the training of the latter could be supplemented and his final safe arrival within the walls of a homeopathic college could be assured. Some of these doctors of the rank and file are associated and hold influence with the students in prepara-

tory schools. In quite a few instances, a homeopathic physician serves as the authorized physician in one of these schools. This influence would be strong in directing a larger number toward the same objective. What one can do may be multiplied many times, if these forces of the rank and file are properly organized, properly directed. But to do this, we must take enough time to effect a real, living organization, one that will work through the days between these annual meetings, that so often are inspired by a sense of need and by a wonderful enthusiasm in meeting that need, but which stop short of actual accomplishment; and often because there is not sufficient time to do otherwise, they consider the work done when an important matter is referred to a standing committee that our fathers designated as the dumping ground for all troubles which come under a certain head, but which experience teaches us, often fails to materialize with any of these necessities actually accomplished.

Too long we have depended upon the organization at large. Too often we have seen these important matters referred to boards, to committees wherein the responsibility is divided to their less successful fulfilment. In the present case, boards and committees do not reach the real source of supply. Personal contact of the family physician with young people about to choose their life work, offers the real opportunity for securing some of this promising material for the medical profession, an opportunity that is not possessed by any board or committee, except through the one who can wield a winning influence. Among that great majority of doctors who seldom hold office, who rarely serve on committees, is a valuable force of workers who, each by his personal influence and through the total of a united effort, can secure the necessary increase in the number of homeopathic students. Bring to Cincinnati your ideas whereby we may organize these valuable workers, bring the elements of a plan whereby we may gain from each a pledge to produce his share of students. By such a movement, rather than by the more extensive, more brilliant, but less productive plan, lies the opportunity for a greater homeopathy in future.

H. M. STEVENSON, M. D.,

President Southern Homeopathic Medical Association.