ORMAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

HE formal opening of the School of Medicine was held in Drew Rankin Memorial Chapel, Friday night, October 4th, at 8 o'clock. Forty members of the faculty of the school of medicine seated on the platform. Theapel was well filled with students patrons and friends of the University. Although the entrance requirements have been advanced

gratulating you, I can at the same time advise you that you may from now on possess your soul in peace. Since the Carnegie Foundation pronouncement you are no longer in doubt. You are assured of your right to exist. The never has really been any doubt about it in the minds of those who have known of your work but it is always pleasant to have one's convictions approved.

That your work is a useful and necessary one, I think we all agree. It might, however, serve some purpose at this time if we devote a few moments to the examination of the nature of that work, and inquire into some of the ramifications of the influence of a medical college such as this.

All educational work is valuable, perhaps a scientific education is more valuable than any other, whether it is or not it at least has the greatest vogue in this day. If science is nothing but common sense extended and refined, we can see reason for this. The work of the medical school, as a department of scientific education, has always seemed to me to be of peculiar importance. Aside from the fact that it has always represented in a general way the interest in natural

science in the community, that in the olden days the student of botany, and of chemistry, invariably sought medicine as a career, it remains today as the profession par excellence, for which a preparation in the natural sciences is essential. Although the modern university turns out chemists, physicists, plant pathologists, entomologists, and so on without end, still throughout the general community it is the physician who is looked upon as the representative of scientific learning.

THE NEW SCIENCE HALL

Over, above, and beyond all this, however, is the vastly more important fact that the medical college deals primarily, and at first hand, with the problem of all others, at once the most interesting and the most important, the problem of human life. Whatever may be the objects of the several educations and professions other than medicine they all, more or less, center and revolve about this problem, which, therefore, of necessity becomes the nucleus of interest.

We hear much in these days about the conservation of natural resources, of the preservation of forests and waterways, of timber lands and coal deposits, but what possible meaning can all this movement have if it is not that in the
end these resources are to be devoted to adding to the length and, more important yet, to the breadth and depth of human life. What can it avail to have ideal social, political and economic conditions and institutions, if the end and aim of it all neglected, or if not neglected, misunderstood. It has been said that the Greeks were destroyed, in large part at least, by malaria. This, the greatest civilization that the world has ever seen, which has given us the most wonderful literature, science, and philosophy, and an art that has never been excelled, went out of existence because it was unable, according to this theory, to grapple with what we now consider a simple problem directly bearing upon the conservation of human life.

It is to my mind illuminating and helpful to see the problem of the physician and of the medical college in this light, see it in its proper orientation, so to speak, to appreciate its several bearings and its many complicated associations and relationships, it is in fact the way to see the problem in order that one may appreciate his own position, and properly relate himself to it through his activities.

From this point of view let us look at some of the problems that confront the physician in his daily work. In the first place, although medicine is often chosen as a profession to follow for the purpose of making a livelihood, still one cannot practice long before appreciating that although he may make his living by the practice of medicine, the mere fact that he is a physician imposes upon him certain obligations, certain duties which he will find crowding themselves upon his attention more and more as he shows an inclination to meet them.

The recent developments in preventive medicine have brought to the front the general conviction that the relation of the physician to the patient, in many instances, can be wholly a personal one, or can it be wholly upon a commercial basis. There are many diseases which are dangerous to the community, and in such cases the physician must cooperate with the public officials whose duty it is to protect the community, and in this cooperation he thus becomes directly a public official. He will do his duty in accordance with his ideals and his breadth of outlook. He will also endeavor to do the thing that is for the best interests of the community in which he lives rather than the thing which may be addressed primarily to the desires of his patient. Very few people realize how much they owe to the organized society in which they live, and yet without that organized society, neither life nor property would be safe over night. It is incumbent therefore upon every one to bear the share of the burdens of that organization which confers so many lasting benefits.

The physician will be called upon frequently to express himself either in his medical societies or in public regarding various questions of public health, or pending legislation and such similar matters. He is practically obliged to take some position with reference to all these great problems and it becomes, therefore, his duty to acquaint himself with them so far as possible that he may express himself intelligently. Legislators, for example, when considering public health measures or medical practice acts, naturally turn to the physician for enlightenment. He should make a sufficiently careful study of these problems to be able to advise them, and he should consider it a distinctly public duty when called upon to respond.

In these days the anti-this society, the and the anti-that society, and the various pathies that are crying for recognition, call for a clear appreciation of the problem involved, for clean-cut ideas as to the issues, so that in the end, the best will be done. The legislator is frequently inclined to canvass his constituency and if a sufficient proportion of them favor the proposed legislation he is inclined to give it favorable consideration and his tendency is to vote for it. The physician, however, must realize that the general public can have little understanding with regard to the claims of all these clashing interests. It is his business to stand between the ignorance of the public and the legislator who might enact that ignorance into law. He is committed to the position of preventing the people from accepting false prophets, from doing the things that will eventuate in their own destruction. He must, therefore, be not only convinced in his own mind but have the courage of his convictions and the ability to present them. We need in medicine leaders who can direct public opinion into proper channels, men who can awaken public interest, and who can point the way to better things.

Above all things else, that which should give the physician a clear insight into such problems as this, and the courage of his convictions, is knowledge. We are beset on all sides by the disintegrating and destructive tendencies of ignorance fostered by prejudices which have their origins, not in intelligence or reasoning, but in blind emotion. The physician, as the exponent of scientific learning, should have a judicial attitude of mind towards these movements and should be able to make for progress by availing himself of all opportunities that may be placed in his way. He may be an enthusiast, but he must be as far as possible removed from faddism, and the faults of the ignorant.

There is no body of men who are more intimately concerned with the protection and the saving of human life than the doctors. There is no field of human effort in which the following of false prophets may bring greater disaster. Take, for example, the anti-vaccination movement, which is addressed directly against the knowledge gained by experience through many generations by the medical profession, as the result of endless and tireless experimentation and research. There are some broad facts that it would seem we know with regard to such a problem as this. We know that immunity from a disease such as small pox is an acquired character, acquired in the life time of the individual; we know that in order to protect the race from the ravages of this disease we must vaccinate each succeeding generation.

There is hardly one of us in the hall to-night, probably, who does not bear the mark of the vaccinator. The immunity of the race from this epidemic disease that has followed Jenner's great discovery has been due to this almost universal immunity through vaccination. If the anti-vaccinationists should gain their point and as a result, even for a brief period, a vaccine should go out of use, it would mean the addition to the race of hundreds of thousands of individuals not protected. The susceptibility of the race, in other words, the moment the selective agent was removed would revert, and a single case of small-pox imported into an unprotected community would cost thousands of lives.

We have but to read the pages of history to appreciate the tremendous danger that may threaten from such a propaganda as that of
The anti-vaccinationist. I meant that I said a few moments ago when I said that in no department of human activity was the following of a false prophet more dangerous than in this department of medicine. A sporadic religious movement usually involves only a few people, and then only to the extent, perhaps, you have had in mind with its tremendous destruction of life, does not begin to offer the danger to the race as does disease. I think it is an undisputed fact that throughout the history of the world vastly more people have perished from the disease to which they were immune, but which were introduced among them by the conquering race, than have perished by the sword in war.

In this connection I have often thought that a course in the "Psychology of Evidence" or in "Methods of Reasoning" might perhaps be of advantage in the medical curriculum. So many creeds and dogmas are based upon practically nothing but some individual's pre-conceived idea and then elaborated into a structure of great power by methods which at every step are false, that it would seem incumbent upon some department of an educational institution to endeavor to point out at least the mental defects and errors that lead to such results. The anti-vaccinationists, for example, become so because his child, perhaps, has been rendered sick by accidental inoculation. A perfectly natural human and parental instinct prompts him to protect his flock from danger. It is a far cry, however, from such an experience to a denunciation of a method elaborated through generations of scientific work, and world wide in its application. The judicial mind, again, must have the courage to direct the physician to do the thing which he knows to be right, with the full knowledge that if he keeps on doing it hundreds of times, the chances are that sometime he may have an unfortunate experience. He has the realization, however, that such an unfortunate experience, if it does occur, is as nothing to what has been accomplished. It is not necessary to refer to the vaccination wound for instances of accidental infection. We have all seen people die from a pin-prick, and people will continue to so long as anthrax bacilli exist. In the language of a friend of mine "We cannot guard against every precaution." Human efforts are susceptible to human mistakes, and so long as we live upon earth we will be making blunders. We can only expect to reduce our errors to a minimum.

There is one other false prophet which represents imminent danger to the race if followed, the anti-vivisectionist prophet. I am tempted to say just a word about this subject because of a recent discovery in medicine which emphasizes with such overwhelming importance the necessity of animal experimentation. I refer to the recent discovery of Ehrlich of the substance known as 606 for the cure of syphilis. All of the present indications appear to demonstrate that this dread disease can now be cured by a single injection of this wonderful preparation. This drug is the outcome of years of study and unremitting labor on the part of this Frankfort Professor in the field of experimental pharmacology, and the result would have been absolutely impossible except by the constant utilization of the results of animal experimentation. Now, see the position that this places the anti-vivisectionist in. He is practically committed to the position that a moderate amount of pain and suffering on the part of a few stray dogs and mangy cats is to be weighed in the balance against the lives and the happiness of hundreds, and thousands, and hundreds of thousands of human beings, and when we consider that syphilis has destroyed millions of lives, for it has been a veritable scourge of the human race as far back as history goes, and without the discoveries of recent years, there would be very little to look forward to in the future, such a position is one absolutely without foundation except in the wishy-washy type of sentimentalism, and yet the community is filled with people who are capable of being roused into a state of righteous indignation by the preachings of the anti-vivisectionists, and by the statements they make which, incidentally, are not infrequently absolutely untrue.

It should be mentioned in this connection as a deserved tribute to the type of men who are engaged in research work, that the first doses of Ehrlich's 606, which you will remember is a compound of arsenic and necessarily poisonous, which were given to human beings, were not given to some unsuspecting charity patients in the free wards of the hospital, but to the assistants in Ehrlich's laboratory. To take away from such men as these the tools which they are using as a means for making discoveries for the alleviation of the sufferings of the human race, is not figuratively, but literally suicidal.

The lives and the health of the people would have little protection if it were not for the fact that the medical schools are constantly turning out men who know, men, who, by virtue of that knowledge, are capable of withstanding the attacks, the malpractices, and the falsifications of the ignorant, the vicious, and the misled.

The doctor exercising all his powers, ought, therefore, I believe, to be of paramount importance in the community. In the preservation or the uplifting of any race the work of the physician is secondary in importance to none. How quickly the Church appreciates this fact in its foreign missions. How sure it is to send into distant countries men well equipped in the practice of the healing art. How necessary it always appears in dealing with such races to secure men who are well versed in hygiene and sanitation. If we are to do anything for the people, we must first have the people to do it. It is certainly not a civilized process to eliminate a race by some disease to which it is not immune, as has been done time and time again in the so-called process of civilization. I would rather see men graduated from this department of this University than from any other, and I believe that this individual medical school, occupying a unique position in this country as it does, fulfilling a peculiar need, not only has a right to exist in it one of the most important of them all, not because its praises are being cried from the house tops but because it is doing a work that the others are not doing.

I know very well many of the good things that have been accomplished in the institution during past years. I know of the efforts to improve and expand the medical curriculum and to develop better teaching facilities. The change from a night to a day school was made with that purpose in mind, and with these efforts I am in hearty sympathy. In fact in the past I have had the pleasure of contributing somewhat to your work. In collaboration with the Board of Trustees of the University and the Superintendent of Freedmen's Hospital, I was very glad to take an active part in the initial steps to-

(Concluded on page 6)
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Students and Alumni of the University are
invited to contribute. Address all com­mu­nications to
Howard University Journal,
Howard University,
Washington, D. C.

Friday, October 7, 1910

EDITORIALS

Everything commendable characteristics of the English lan­guage is its great variety of
ynonymous expressions. In English one can say nothing in a different ways.

The June number of the Library Journal of New York gives the
ontospiece to a fine cut of the Carnegie Library. It also has a
line description of the Library itself, and in its account of the
pressive service at the dedication, gives the striking speech of
Mr. Carnegie.

Contributors have been ap­pointed to represent in the JOURNAL
the special interests of their various departments and to give us the
benefit of all the news pertaining
thereunto. In previous years the
Editors of the JOURNAL have had no
little trouble in the attempt to col­lect
news from those departments
farther away. All departments are
included in the first ranks of our
consideration. We wish to carry
Howard University weekly before
the eyes of this nation and into the
admirable view of peoples beyond
our border.

Washington affords excellent
opportunities to young men and to
young women who desire to utilize
their spare hours in doing Sunday
School or sociological work. Many
Sunday Schools are begging for
earnest helpers to serve as teachers.
The poverty districts afford many
opportunities to those who can
spare some time in work of a chari­table
nature. Those desiring this
kind of work may be referred to
Miss Eloise Bibb who conducts the
social settlement work on L St.
S. W. Miss Bibb is one of our
graduates who has accomplished
great good and won much success
and applause in this sort of work.

In the September number of the
Outdoor Life Magazine is an article
on the "Negro and Tuberculosis"
written by Prof. Kelly Miller.
This article should be read not
only by every student in this university, but also by every negro in
this country. In it you will find
an ample collection of facts concerning the negro and tuberculosis.
It is easily demonstrable that the negro is highly susceptible to the
disease which is so unremitting in
its fury and so formidable in its
attack. It is our duty to become
familiar with the literature extant
on the subject and to contribute as
much as possible of our energy in
the prevention of the disease and
in the alleviation of the suffering
of those already afflicted by its
tortures.

Is the revision of the football
rules a "revision upward" or a
"gradual revision downward"?
All hail the passing of the merciless brutality so characteristic of the
ol game, but it is sincerely
hoped that all the rugged and
bronze manhood will not be purged
from the game. There is something admirable about it. Take
it away and football becomes as
ame as a game of philopena. We
hope the revision has not reached
the point at which it will be a
penalty to rumple a player's hair
or to beg pardon when it is neces­
sary to pass in front of an opponent.
Welcome to the new rules, but as
long as there is the faintest vestige
of barbarism in the human race
[The football game itself seems to
prove that there is a great deal
of it left] people will enjoy the
" scrap" and " snap" of the game.

We regret very much that Mr. J.
B. French will not return to us
this year. The departure of Mr.
French, left a vacancy on the
Editorial staff and this place had
to be filled by a strong, reliable
man, a man of great literary expe­
rience and ability. Therefore, to
fill this vacancy Mr. R. G. Doggett
has been chosen. Taking all things
into consideration we have the
right material for work, a man who
can be depended upon to do some­
thing all the time. In Mr. Dog­
ett we have a man who, realizing
the spirit of the times, believes

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The busy world shoves angrily inside the man who stands with arms akimbo set until occasion tells him what to do; and he that waits to have his task marked out shall die, and leave his errand unfulfilled."

**MEDICAL NOTES**

Mr. Robt. E. Giles, a graduate of Howard University College of Pharmacy, class of 1910, successfully passed the State Board of New Jersey, and is now Manager of Morris's Drug Store in Atlantic City. Mr. Giles was very popular in the musical circles throughout the city and is well known by the student body. He has our best wishes for great success.

Dr. Wilson Harvey, a graduate of the Medical School, class 1910, is practicing medicine in Vicksburg, Mississippi, where he passed the State Board with a high record. Mr. Harvey was in great demand around the University. During his last year he was president of the Council of Upper Classmen, a position highest in honor awarded to a student of the University. He possesses the knowledge and all the pure metal requisite to a successful Doctor of Medicine.

In the American Medicine, New Series, Volume V., No 8, August 1910, there appears an important treatise, Redisplacement in Adjusted Colles' Deformity, by Charles I. West, M. C., Associate professor of Descriptive and Topographic Anatomy, Howard University; late First Assistant Surgeon and Executive Officer Freedman's Hospital, and member of the Association of American Anatomists. Dr. West gives explanation of his treatment in a proportion in which Cause and Cure are the extremes, Remedy and Colles' Deformity the means. This article will interest the medical students especially and all others making a study of anatomy or of surgery.

Dr. William J. Tompkins, Howard, 1905, has been officially selected by the Hospital and Health Board of Kansas City, to select a corps of colored nurses and interns for the old General Hospital which has been given over for the use of the colored race. The Kansas City Journal says:

"The Board announced that it selected Dr. Tompkins because of the remarkable record he made during the summer while working among the colored people in the Child Hygiene Department."

He calls for one graduate nurse at $50 per month, and six high school graduates to take the course in Nurse Training; also for four Doctors of Medicine as interns of the hospital. Thus Howard is extending its influence.

The idler's ambition is just like a Chinese name—any old thing will do. Have a definite purpose in life.
STUDENT SENTIMENT

STUDENT sentiment is one of the most potent factors in shaping the ideals of a student body. The college is judged, by its student body. Is it not the duty then of every student body to see to it that the sentiment among its members is always what it should be, healthful, inspiring and never degrading, demoralizing or unduly inclined to compromise with evil? In the first place what is student sentiment?

In brief, it is the prevailing opinions, beliefs or convictions that are held in common by the mass of a student body in regard to every-day occurrences of college life. If student sentiment is of a low moral tone, the college life will be low; if it is high in its estimate of character, scholarship and the like, the college life will represent the highest and best. Say what you will of the influence of the faculty, the student after all is the standard fixer. A competent faculty, high-minded, broadminded and sympathetic is of course indispensable, but it is the student himself who, in his estimate of the many lessons given him in the class room, lecture hall and chapel, fixes the standard by putting into actual practice the theories he receives.

Now, fellow collegians of Howard, if we are the standard gagers, it is up to us to create the sentiment that will make every student of Howard what he ought to be. The young man or woman who comes to Howard should have, a well equipped, admirably conducted hospital in which you can come into first hand contact with an abundance of clinical material, and you are to be congratulated upon that feature of your work.

In closing my remarks I want to add just a few words upon a topic which, in my experience at least, my predilection for the problems of the mind, and my insistence upon the importance of the mental, not only in sickness but in everyday life. I hope the spirit and influence of this school will be such that its graduates in going forth will appreciate that when they are dealing with a sick individual, they are not dealing simply with a series of related anatomical structures and physiological functions, but they are dealing in reality with human personalities. If the conservation of timber, of the natural resources of the country can have no meaning except for the ultimate advantage of man, neither can the conservation of human life, or more specifically the human body, have any meaning except that it adds something to the sum total of human happiness. The real individual does not reside in the bony levers of the skeleton, the delicate contracting fibres of the muscle, the wonderfully intricate and complex functions of the internal organs, but in the wishes, the hopes, the desires, the ambitions, the sorrows and the joys which he experiences, and whether you will or no, you must be physicians of the mind when you deal with him, for, after all, the body is only a means to an end, and the end is a mental one.

I do not think any university department in its course of instruction brings the student into closer and more intimate personal contact with his fellows than that of medicine. The physician of all men meets the problems of life at first hand. He, of all others, is best able to appreciate the true spring of human conduct. He is, therefore, in a position to be of the greatest use to his fellows.

I know that your school is striving for the best, is dominated by high ideals, and I am honored tonight in having the opportunity of felicitating you upon the beginning of another year of usefulness. May it be filled with success.

FORMAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

(Continued from page 3)

ward the new Freedmen's Hospital. You have now what every medical department should have, a well equipped, admirably conducted hospital in which you can come into first hand contact with an abundance of clinical material, and you are to be congratulated upon that feature of your work.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Young Ladies' Athletic Club cordially invites you to attend a bazaar in Miner Hall, Saturday October 8, at 7:30 P.M. The proceeds from the entertainment will be turned over to the Training Table Fund for the foot-ball team which will be seen in the dining hall in a few days.

It is generally known that an extremely loyal spirit for our athletic heroes permeates the young ladies' club and each loyal Howardite is bound to show his appreciation for the interest manifested on the part of the young ladies by attending the bazaar. Admission 5 cents.

PHYSIC CLUB ORGANIZED

The first meeting of the Physics Club of Howard University will take place Friday, October 7th, at 3 P.M. in the Physics lecture room, second floor of Science Hall. In these weekly meetings of one hour magazine articles relating to Physics and kindred subjects will be reviewed by the instructors and advanced students in physics, and any recent discoveries or other interesting phenomena discussed which have a great bearing on this branch of Science. All members and friends of the University are cordially invited to attend. Professor Perkins will have charge of the first meeting.
The first regular meeting of the Alpha Phi Literary Society was called to order last Friday evening by Miss Bertha Pitts. The business before the house was the reception of new members and the election of officers. Mr. J. C. McKelvie was chosen as temporary chairman of the meeting and opened business in due form.

For president two candidates were put into the field; viz., Mr. Jesse M. Jackson of Sedalia, Mo., and Mr. Harry L. Scott of Reisters- town, Md. Both men are popular and strong among the students. Mr. Jackson was nominated in an extended and excellent speech by Mr. T. M. Neely, seconded by Mr. E. M. Chandler. Mr. Neely's eloquence won much applause from the house and served well to introduce his candidate to the new students. Mr. Scott was nominated by Mr. Joseph "Tabby" Howard in a very brief and pointed speech, since Mr. Scott needed introduction neither to old nor new students. The nomination was seconded by Mr. James W. Parker who took occasion to convince the house why it "is necessary to elect Mr. Scott president at this time."

The vote was taken by ballot, Messrs. Charles Lunsford, E. M. Chandler and Numa P. G. Adams acting as tellers. The ballots showed that Mr. Scott had been elected by a vote of 65 to 39, an overwhelming majority. When this result was announced the house rang with yells and cheers.

Mr. Scott is a man of great executive and oratorical ability. In debating circles he is one of our brightest stars. With him in the chair the Alpha Phi may expect this to be a pleasant and successful administration.

The other officers elected are:
- Numa P. G. A'camps, Vice President.
- Miss Lois Johns, Secretary.
- Miss Macarthy, Assistant Secretary.
- Mr. P. B. Lennox, Treasurer.
- Mr. C. H. Donnell, Journalist.
- Mr. J. T. Warricks, Critic.
- Mr. Alexander Terry, Sergeant-at-arms.

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