

organization or body governs the medical colleges in "good standing" of the United States, and how the State is to know the legal difference between a diploma from a college in "good standing" from one "not recognized" or fraudulent?

W. H. BAUGH, M.D.

Answer.—Each State has its own laws on the subject. For a summary of them see this JOURNAL, March 10, 1894.

Woman's Medical College of Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Oct. 11, 1894.

To the Editor.—In your issue of Oct. 6, 1894, I see that you have given the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania an extended notice, for which we are greatly obliged, but I beg to call your attention to a very serious error, viz., you have placed our reading room fee for each of the four years at \$50 instead of 50 cents, making a total of \$200 instead of \$2 for the course. May I ask you to correct this error and oblige,

Yours very respectfully, CLARA MARSHALL, Dean.

It was the derelict decimals.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Imported Smallpox.—A case of smallpox was detected among the steerage passengers of the steamer *Kron Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm* arrived at New York on the 15th inst., from Naples. The vessel was disinfected and released after forty-eight hours detention, but the steerage passengers, 499 in number, were vaccinated and transferred to Hoffman's Island where they will be held under observation for two weeks.

Public Health Legislation.—At its recent meeting the Michigan State Board of Health resolved to ask the next Legislature of that State to enact laws prohibiting any person from teaching school or acting as a professional nurse without a certificate from a reputable physician that he or she is free from any communicable form of tuberculosis; and also prohibiting the sale of milk from cows that have not been examined by the tuberculin test and found free from the disease.

Statistics of Contagious Diseases.—The Council of Hygiene of Paris has decided (*Bulletin Médicale de Paris*) to issue a weekly bulletin of all contagious diseases reported in that city. Those interested in the sanitary condition of the French capital will thus have official information. In the *Bulletin* the term, "cholera," will be given under two titles, so as to avoid the confusion and uncertainty heretofore caused by failure to discriminate between genuine cholera and the choleric diseases which are often reported as "cholera."

Vaccination with Animal Lymph.—Dr. Bordesén, in a paper read before the Copenhagen Medical Society (*Trans. Med. Soc., Copenhagen*), states that at the Royal Establishment for Vaccination among 1,221 children vaccinated with bovine lymph 99.84 per cent. of the inoculations gave a positive result and in 95.9 per cent. pustules were produced. In 1893 out of 24,335 vaccinations 95.8 per cent. were successful. He attributes these results to care in the production and handling of the lymph.

Memphis Sanitation.—The Tennessee State Board of Health *Bulletin* notes with approval that the city of Memphis seems to take the lead in that part of the world in a very important feature of public sanitation, to-wit: The summary destruction of buildings unfit for human occupancy. In the daily papers of that city are to be found, from time to time, lists of houses condemned by the City Board of Health and recommended to the City Council for demolition—which the

Bulletin says "usually follows." From being the unhealthiest city in the Mississippi Valley Memphis has become, within a dozen years or so, one of the most healthful; but it has only been by vigorous and persistent sanitary effort pushed, in the face of the most serious difficulties, by her medical profession and public-spirited citizens.

The Chaotic Confusion of the International Congress of Hygiene.—The special correspondent of the *Times* (London), September 14, last, attributes the chaotic confusion which characterized the ending of the Congress to three principal causes: 1, the overwhelming development of what may be called the picnic element. Social entertainments and amusements are a recognized part of these gatherings, and serve a useful purpose, when confined within proper limits, by bringing the members together in a friendly way; but when carried too far they distract attention from the business proper and make it impossible to carry out the proceedings in an efficient and orderly manner. A hundred distractions were organized to run simultaneously with the supposed business of the Congress, and the business went to the wall. Overwhelmed and wearied by the laborious pleasures to which the members were hurried, one after another, even those who took a real interest in the proceedings, ceased to follow them. 2, the abuse of the system of passing sectional resolutions. An enormous mass of resolutions were brought before the general conference, many of them hopelessly impracticable, some positively ridiculous, and others very ill advised. A compulsory eight-hour day for labor for instance, and free medical treatment for the poor at home as well as in hospital. If any respect is to attach to the conclusions of the Congress, as has been the case in some notable instances in the past, they must be few and practical, and passed with all the weight derived from a full sitting. 3, the enormous number of papers contributed. The agenda paper contained the titles of between eight hundred and nine hundred papers distributed over twenty-six sections, nineteen of which were devoted to hygiene and the rest to demography. In some sections many of the papers were not reached at all, and even so, there was no time for discussion. The reports of the various national committees were largely responsible for this state of things. These reports are one of the most valuable features of the Congress, but they are often exceedingly long, and before they have been got through every one is tired and all the time is gone. In the exceedingly important sitting devoted to diphtheria, for instance, the reading of the German, American and English reports fairly exhausted the patience of the crowded audience, keenly interested as it was in the subject. Surely it would be better to have abstracts of all the reports distributed and to take the papers themselves as read, passing on at once to discussion.

Prophylaxis and Cure of the Bacterial Diseases.—None but the most favorable reports of the new prophylactic and curative treatment of diphtheria continue to be recorded in our British and Continental exchanges. It has been adopted in the two hospitals for children in Berlin, and the municipal authorities of Dresden, Nordhausen, Christiana and several other cities have taken steps to supply their hospitals with the diphtheria antitoxin and to give free treatment to all diphtheritic patients. The Pasteur Institute in Paris, having expressed its regret at being unable to furnish the serum to every physician in France on account of its cost, *Figaro* opened a popular subscription for the purpose, which has since been followed by the insertion of a credit of 100,000 francs in the budget of the Chamber of Deputies, to be used, according to a dispatch of the 15th inst., in a test of the serum as a prophylactic. The British Institute of Preventive Medicine has also begun the production of the antitoxin on a large scale. Its production and use in this country, however, are still delayed, presumably, as heretofore intimated, on account of financial considerations. It is estimated that a plant for the production of the antitoxin would cost \$30,000—at least that is the sum appropriated for the purpose by the New York City Health Department.

While this application of Behring's and Kitasato's theory of the treatment of bacterial diseases by the serum of immune animals is thus pronounced a brilliant success, on the other hand, Dr. Viquerat's claims of similar success in the treatment of tuberculosis by asses' serum are being subjected to skeptical criticism. These claims rest, thus far, on the results of the treatment of twenty-five cases all told, and an analysis of the cases shows ten of them to be surgical disease alleged to be tuberculosis, but of which no proof is given; while in a number of the remaining fifteen cases grave doubts are expressed as to the accuracy of the diagnosis. Koch's unfortunate experience on similar lines is recalled in connection with a previous announcement by Viquerat himself, of a therapeutic discovery which proved to be a *fiasco*. It may be that Viquerat's work is not yet fully or correctly reported; those interested in the protection of the public health can not but hope for his success; and it remains that in such work lies the promise and the potency not only of curative but of preventive medicine in dealing with the so-called zymotic diseases. For this, among other reasons, it is gratifying to learn that the reported failure of the Haffkine anti-cholera inoculations at Lucknow has been greatly exaggerated. Dr. W. J. Simpson, Medical Officer of Health for Calcutta, recently submitted to the municipality a further memorandum detailing his experience during the previous three months in that city and the observations made on the recent epidemics in Cawnpore and Dinapore. These afford strong additional evidence of the protective value of Professor Haffkine's inoculations, and Dr. Simpson shows that the Lucknow failures "only teach the necessity of using virus of a higher protective power and of having a special laboratory for its preparation," which was wanting at Lucknow.

ASSOCIATION NOTES.

Treasurer's Notice.—Members of the Association knowing themselves to be in arrears will please send the amount of their annual subscription to the Treasurer, HENRY P. NEWMAN, M.D., Venetian Building, Chicago, without delay.

The great expense on account of the establishment of the new JOURNAL office, makes it more than ever necessary that our members should be prompt in their response to this notice.

SOCIETY NEWS.

Northwestern Wisconsin Medical Association.—The Northwestern Wisconsin Medical Association held its quarterly meeting October 9.

Ohio County Medical Society.—The Ohio County Medical Society of W. Virginia held a meeting in Wheeling, October 4, and the following officers were elected: President, Dr. H. B. Baguley; Vice-President, Dr. Harriet Jones; Secretary, Dr. Walden; Treasurer, Dr. E. A. Hildreth; Board of Censors, Drs. R. J. Reed, R. McC. Baird and Charles Frissell.

Clark County (Ky.) Medical Association held a most interesting meeting at Charlestown October 10. About twenty physicians were present. The morning session was taken up in a discussion of two interesting cases reported by Dr. F. M. Carr, and a case of cerebral tumor reported by Dr. I. N. Ruddle. The banquet was served at the Reeves House. The after-dinner speeches were witty and wise. In the afternoon Dr. Ruddle read a paper on "The Uses and Abuses of Ergot," and Dr. Cad Jones a paper on typhoid fever. The Association adjourned to meet in Jeffersonville the second Tuesday in April, 1895.

Eastern Kansas Medical Society held its fall meeting in Kansas City, October 9. There were sixty in attendance. The following papers were read: "Fractures of the Base of the Radius," Dr. George M. Gray, Kansas City, Kan.; "A Muscular Spasm," Dr. W. S. Lindsay, Topeka; "Ophthalmia Neonatorum," Dr. J. W. May, Kansas City, Kan.; "The Place of Education in the Treatment of Diseases of Women," Dr. Frances Storrs, Topeka; "Report of a Case," Dr. A. P. Tenney, Kansas

City, Kan. The next meeting will be held in Topeka in January. The officers of the Society are: Dr. R. E. McVey of Topeka, President; Dr. George M. Gray of Kansas City, Kan., Vice-President; Dr. R. S. Magee of Topeka, Secretary, and Dr. Ida C. Barnes of Topeka, Treasurer.

West Virginia State Association.—The West Virginia State Association of Railway Surgeons held its second annual meeting in Grafton, October 5. Dr. R. W. Hall, of Moundsville, was re-elected President for the ensuing year; Dr. A. H. Thayer, of Grafton, was elected Vice-President; Dr. J. F. Reger of Littleton, Secretary; Dr. W. F. Vankirk, of Grafton, Treasurer, and Dr. W. M. Sivey, of Tunnelton, member of the Executive Committee for three years. The Committee on Transportation consists of Drs. A. H. Thayer, chairman; R. W. Hall and J. F. Reger. The dues were fixed at \$1 per year. The next meeting will be on the first Thursday in October, 1895.

Railway Surgeons.—The first annual meeting of the Iowa Association of Railway Surgeons was held at Sioux City October 10.

Dr. J. N. Warren was chosen temporary chairman and J. D. McCrae, Jr., of Council Bluffs temporary secretary. The Association was permanently organized with the following officers: President, J. N. Warren, Sioux City; Vice-President, J. W. Philpott, Fort Madison; Secretary, Donald McCrae, Jr., Council Bluffs; Treasurer, J. M. Knot, Sioux City. Judiciary Committee, G. W. Coit, Missouri Valley; C. C. Bronley, Manchester; Dr. Adair, Anamosa. Papers were read by Dr. J. N. Warren, of Sioux City, on "Spinal Injuries;" "Anesthetics," Dr. A. C. Bergen of Sioux City; "The Hot Water Pad," Dr. A. M. Vail, of Rock Rapids; "Compound Fractures," Dr. Donald McCrae, of Council Bluffs.

The Wyoming County (N. Y.) Medical Association held a meeting in Attica, October 9. The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. M. J. Wilson, of Warsaw, after which the proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, Dr. A. B. Straight, of Perry. The first paper was read by Dr. A. G. Ellinwood, of Attica, subject, "Thrombosis and Embolism;" followed by Dr. Frank R. Barross, of Attica, upon "Practical Points on the Elbow Joint." Dr. Burbank, of Pavilion, presented an interesting paper upon "Quacks and Quackery," and Dr. C. R. Seeley, of Attica, gave a paper upon "Notes of Cases in Practice." An illustration of the value of "Antiseptics" was given by Dr. Stanton, of Varysburg, followed by an interesting article on "Peritonitis" by Dr. Hulette, of Arcade. Dr. M. J. Wilson, of Warsaw, closed the afternoon session by opening a discussion upon "Professional Work From a Business Standpoint." Among those in attendance were Dr. G. H. Peddle, Wethersfield Springs; Miss J. W. Finley, M.D., Castile; Dr. William Stanton, Varysburg; Dr. Fisher, of Arcade, Vice-President of the organization; Dr. Z. L. Stage, of Bliss; Dr. Parker Davis, of Darien. Among the new names presented to the organization for membership were Drs. Z. L. Stage, C. R. Seeley and Parker Davis. Upon motion of those present Dr. Frank F. Ellinwood, of Attica, and Syracuse, was made an honorary member of the Association. A banquet was served at the Edwards Hotel.

Vermont State Medical Society.—The annual meeting was held in Montpelier October 11 and 12. The following officers were elected: President, J. H. Linsley, Burlington; Vice-President, F. F. Chaffee, Strafford; Secretary, D. C. Hawley, Burlington; Executive Committee: J. H. Linsley, D. C. Hawley, and F. R. Stoddard (of Shelburne). Publication Committee: D. C. Hawley, J. B. Wheeler and H. C. Tinkham. License Censors: E. S. Albee, C. M. Ferrin and H. S. Brown. The attendance was the largest in the history of the Society. Dr. Frederic C. Shattuck, of Boston, read a valuable paper on "The Modern Treatment of Typhoid Fever," and Dr. John C. Irish, of Lowell, Mass., presented one on the "Surgical Treatment of Uterine Neoplasms." The annual banquet was spread at the Pavilion Hotel at 10