

SCIENCE

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MEDICINE AND SOCIOLOGY¹

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It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to be with you at your commencement exercises. Rush has attracted many Wisconsin graduates medically inclined. Not only in the present graduating class but also among the members of your faculty I greet not a few Wisconsin men. Furthermore, the University of Chicago, with which Rush is officially affiliated, has a course in the premedical and medical sciences similar in ideals to the one we have at Wisconsin. In the premedical course at Chicago in addition to physics, chemistry, biology and a modern language some work is required in social science. Work of this kind is advised but not required at Wisconsin, but I am not sure but that it should be required there. There is ever greater need for sociology in medicine.

On the one hand, medical problems are at bottom social problems and are to be wisely solved only by those who have some knowledge of social science. On the other hand, the increasing complexity of the social organization brought about by the introduction of machinery and of rapid means of transportation of people, materials and news, the urbanization of the population and industrial concentration, have developed social problems which demand above all else the intelligence of men broadly trained in medicine. The triumphs of civilization are due to organization, to the subordination of individual whims to broad social aims. Its failings, on the other hand, are in large part due to the too constant appeal to selfish personal in-

¹ Address delivered at the commencement exercises of Rush Medical College, June, 1911.