

reason for this splendid showing is the use of the antityphoid inoculation. If instead of its being only voluntary in the British army it had been compulsory as in our own army, the results would have been even better. And yet a blatant band of men and women both in England and our own country are doing all they can to oppose the use of this life-preserving remedy!

Let us now in conclusion take a general review of the surgical progress I have so inadequately sketched.

During the horrible days of Paré, Bell, Simpson, and our own Civil War there was still gradual improvement, but no *fundamental* change occurred for three centuries after Paré introduced the ligature and banished the boiling oil.

But about the middle of the nineteenth century, and especially in its last quarter, experimental research took the field. Everything that could be put to the test of accurate experiment in medicine and surgery was thoroughly investigated physically, physiologically, chemically, microscopically, biologically, bacteriologically. Laboratories were founded and research workers vied with each other in countless investigations. A flood of light was thrown upon every problem. And see the result in the long list I have just read to you! Medicine proper, obstetrics, all the specialties, sanitation and hygiene, furnish equally impressive calendars of progress—principally the result of experimental research.

Chief among these experimental researches were those of Pasteur (of whom I have said far too little for want of time) and of Lister. They inaugurated a wholly *new era* in surgery.

Then followed the battle for the germ theory and antiseptic surgery, ending in final victory. Meantime a new science, bacteriology, was born.

Next came the wide extension and appli-

cation of the new surgery to almost all the surgical ills that flesh is heir to. The wonderful results to both life and limb that I have recounted have naturally followed.

Even amid the disabilities and obstacles of war itself Lister's work has been a boon beyond price.

While the soldier and the scientist have been busy devising ever more frightful engines of destruction to maim and to kill, we surgeons have been equally busy devising means for saving thousands of lives and limbs in civil life, and even amid the carnage and savagery of war.

Surely our hearts should be lifted in gratitude to God for giving us such splendid powers of reasoning, experiment and research—all for the service of our fellow men.

W. W. KEEN

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#### THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

THE twentieth anniversary of the appropriation by the City of New York of 250 acres of land in Bronx Park for the use of the New York Botanical Garden will be commemorated at the garden during the week commencing September 6, 1915. Botanists from all parts of North America are invited to attend. The following program is planned:

##### *Monday, September 6*

Assemble at the Garden as convenient in the morning.

1:30: Lunch at the Garden.

2:30: Addresses of welcome and an account of the history of the Garden.

3:30–5:30: Inspection of a portion of the grounds and buildings.

5:30–7: Visit to the Zoological Park.

##### *Tuesday, September 7*

10:30–1: Session for the reading of papers.

1:30: Lunch at the Garden.

2:30–4: Session for the reading of papers.

4–6: Inspection of portions of the buildings and grounds.

*Wednesday, September 8*

Salt Water Day on Staten Island, for a study of the coastal flora.

Lunch at 1:30, with subsequent opportunity for scientific oratory.

*Thursday, September 9*

10:30-1: Session for the reading of papers.

1:30: Lunch at the Garden.

2:30-4: Session for the reading of papers.

4-6: Inspection of portions of the grounds and buildings.

*Friday, September 10*

Visit to the pine barrens of New Jersey, under the guidance of the Torrey Botanical Club.

*Saturday, September 11*

Visit to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and an excursion to some Long Island locality.

Other excursions of more special character will be organized if opportunity offers.

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*THE CORNELL MEDICAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK CITY*

ON February 4, 1915, twenty members of the teaching staff of Cornell University Medical College in New York City met at the college building and organized the Cornell Medical Society. The objects of this society, as stated in its constitution, are

to foster a better acquaintanceship among its members, to create an atmosphere of helpful and sympathetic criticism of the original work done in all departments of the Cornell University Medical College, and to promote the best interests of the college as an educational and research institution.

Four meetings, consisting of a scientific program followed by a smoker, are to be held each year in the months of October, December, February and April.

For the purpose of keeping in closer touch with the alumni of the college an annual day is to be observed in May, at which time

the regular college duties being suspended by vote of the faculty, the society shall conduct scientific demonstrations in the various laboratories of the college and in the hospital wards.

In the evening of this day the society, alumni and friends of the college shall give a dinner at

which the graduating class shall be the guests of the society.

The first regular meeting of the society this year was held in March and was attended by fifty members of the teaching staff; the second, held in April, was attended by sixty men, most of whom had become members.

The first annual day was held Friday, May 21. The regular classes, except those for the fourth year, were held, but a special program was prepared for the visiting alumni. About sixty alumni visited the college, some of them coming from a distance.

The first annual dinner was attended by 126. The president of the society, Dr. John A. Hartwell, presided and toasts were responded to by Drs. W. Gilman Thompson, Graham Lusk, Frank S. Meara, for the faculty; by Dr. Arthur M. Wright, class of 1905, for the alumni, and Mr. Douglas Palmer, for the graduating class.

The organization of such a society has fully justified the belief of its originators that it would serve a useful purpose. The meetings already held have demonstrated the advantages of bringing the members of the various departments into closer contact with the work being done in departments other than their own and of arousing in the alumni an interest in the progress which has been made since their graduation.

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*HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION*

THE Pacific Coast Committee of the American Association respectfully suggests that those who plan to attend the San Francisco meeting of the association during the week beginning August 2 should consider making their hotel reservations at once. A deposit amounting to ten per cent. of the anticipated total cost of the service should accompany the request for the reservation. This sum will be credited upon the hotel account.

The hotels on the appended list are comfortable and conveniently located. There are many other excellent hotels in San Francisco and vicinity, and printed information concerning them may be secured by addressing Mr.