

Professor Prentiss was a member of the Society of Naturalists, the Society of Zoologists and the Association of Anatomists. He was the author of many papers presenting the results of his own investigations in the fields of zoology and anatomy among the more important of which may be mentioned:

1. "The Otocyst of Decapod Crustacea," *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 1901.

This was his thesis for the doctorate and was a well-rounded piece of histological and physiological work.

2. "Polydactylism in Man and the Domestic Animals," *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 1903.

3. "The Neurofibrillar Structure in the Ganglia of the Leech and Crayfish with Especial Reference to the Neurone Theory," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1903.

4. "The Nervous Structures in the Palate of the Frog," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1904.

5. "The Development of the Hypoglossal Ganglia of Pig Embryos," *Jour. Comp. Neur.*, 1910.

6. "The Development of the Membrana Tectoria with Reference to its Structure and Attachments," *Amer. Jour. Anat.*, 1913.

Dr. Prentiss's "Text-book of Embryology" published in January, 1915, less than six months before his death, met at once with a very favorable reception. It is an example of text-book-making at its very best. The wealth of excellent illustrations and the clear concise text make it indispensable for the student of embryology. In it there are also many contributions of an original character not published elsewhere.

Professor Prentiss's scientific work was characterized by a scrupulous attention to detail and by the perfection of his technical methods. He handled with great success and on difficult material the most delicate of neurological methods—the methylene blue stain. His dexterity was shown again in remarkable dissections of embryos, drawings from which appear in his book. He brought to all his work an unusually clear mind and a keen insight into fundamental problems.

Reticent, almost shy, by nature, and prevented by the condition of his health from often joining his colleagues at the regular Christmas meetings Dr. Prentiss was intimately known

to only a chosen few. To them he was endeared by reason of his unflinching good humor, generous motives and loyalty to high ideals and to his friends. Admired and respected by all conscientious students and loved by those who came into close contact with him, he helped greatly toward the establishment of high standards of scholarship and manhood in the student body.

In his death we lose a comrade whom we esteemed most highly, a generous and faithful friend.

S. WALTER RANSON

CHICAGO,

June 24, 1915

FRATERNITAS MEDICORUM

THE following appeal has been addressed by the distinguished committee whose names are appended to members of the medical profession. Every physician is entitled to membership in the Brotherhood (Fraternitas Medicorum = F.M.); there is no fee attached to this membership. However, in order to be able to maintain the organization, distribution of appropriate literature, etc., voluntary contributions will be welcome. Enrollment of membership as well as contributions are to be sent to The Medical Brotherhood, care of Dr. S. J. Meltzer, 13 West 121st Street, New York City.

AN APPEAL

To the men and women engaged in medical practise and the advancement of the medical sciences.

The present horrible war among civilized nations has brought out impressively certain sad facts; that although there are civilized *individual* nations, we are still very far from having a civilized humanity—there is an abyss between *intranational* and *international* morality; that, no matter how cultured and enlightened nations may be, they still settle their international differences by brute force, by maiming and killing their adversaries; and, finally, that the present high development of science and invention in individual nations only serves to make the results of this war more destructive than any other in history.

The war has demonstrated, however, one encouraging fact, namely, that among all the sciences and professions, the medical sciences and medical practise occupy an almost unique relationship to warfare, and that, among all the citizens of a country at war, medical men and women occupy a peculiar and distinctive position.

No discovery in medical science has been utilized for the purpose of destroying or harming the enemy. Medical men in each of the warring countries are as courageous, as patriotic, as any other citizens, and are as ready to die or to be crippled for life in the service of their country as any other class of their fellow countrymen. But their services, however, consist in ministering to the sick and to the injured and in attending to the sanitary needs. Furthermore, they often risk their lives by venturing into the firing line to bring the injured to places of safety and to attend to their immediate needs. *In these heroic and humanitarian acts friend and foe are treated alike.* Finally, the majority of the members of the medical profession and of the medical journals of the neutral as well as of the warring countries, abstain from public utterances that might be grossly offensive to any of the belligerent nations.

These facts—this advanced moral position in international relations which medicine and its followers are permitted to occupy in all civilized nations ought to be brought to the full consciousness of the men and women engaged in the medical sciences or in medical practise. Such a realization could not fail to have an elevating influence upon the medical profession itself, and would probably exert a favorable influence upon the development of international morality in general.

At the dawn of history, medical men were frequently also the exponents of philosophy and morals. In the middle ages, when knowledge became specialized, medical men more and more devoted their activity exclusively to medical practise. Because of its inefficiency at that time, medicine lost its prestige. In recent times, however, medicine is becoming an effective science; one marvelous discovery has

followed another, and the efficiency of medical practise has been rapidly increasing. Medicine makes habitable to man hitherto uninhabitable parts of the world. It prevents disease; and, with increasing theoretical and practical efficiency, medicine is learning to alleviate and cure disease and injuries. Medical science and medical men have steadily risen in the esteem of civilized mankind. *May not the medical sciences and medical men become again the standard bearers of morality, especially of international morals?*

To accomplish these objects, it is proposed to organize as large and effective an association as may be possible, of men and women engaged in the medical sciences or in medical practise under the name of

THE MEDICAL BROTHERHOOD FOR THE
FURTHERANCE OF INTERNATIONAL MORALITY

It is obvious that such a brotherhood could not exercise an important influence at once. But our modest expectation for prompt results should not prevent us from attempting *now* to take the first step in the right direction. Many important results have often had small beginnings.

A committee of physicians and medical investigators request you herewith to enroll as a member, and to declare your willingness to endorse and support the moral standard which the medical profession generally upholds when called upon to perform its patriotic duties in an international strife.

It should be expressly understood that it is not the object of the proposed brotherhood to influence the feelings and views of any one regarding the problems involved in the present war. It is desired merely to bring to the full consciousness of the members of the medical profession the exceptional moral position which all civilized nations, even while at war, *permit* and *expect* medical men to occupy, at least as long as they remain in the medical profession and act in this capacity. This consciousness can not fail to elevate the moral standards of physicians. Furthermore, after the close of the present war, the brotherhood could without doubt facilitate the reunion of the members of

the medical profession of all the nations which are now at war and increase good feeling among them. A humanitarian body such as the proposed brotherhood, if already in existence and ready for service, might and could be of the greatest usefulness in many ways.

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