

– 2017 –

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to the *Rhode Island Medical Journal* for
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THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL JOURNAL

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THE ANNUAL DINNER
OF THE
Rhode Island Medical Society
Narragansett Hotel
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 7 P. M.

ACCOMMODATIONS ARE LIMITED . . .
RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE PROMPTLY:

Dinner Tickets: \$4.00 per Person

NO RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER MAY 12

Send reservation notices (and check payable to R. I. Medical Society)
to RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY, 106 FRANCIS STREET
PROVIDENCE 3, R. I.

Editorials

Prayer versus Atropine

The following letter was recently received by a physician in Providence.

Dear Doctor:

I write to inform you that I will not call at your office for any further treatment for my eyes. Of course you will wish to know the reason. I do not know how much you believe in the Bible or God's word, or in prayer, and what I say may surprise you. In the fifth chapter of James, beginning at the 14th verse, it says: "Is there any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church and they will pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall rise him up and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him."

There are many other passages of Scripture which I could give you, but it is not necessary. I obeyed this scriptural injunction, had my district superintendent and my congregation join me in the prayer of faith, asking God to heal me, and I believe he has done it in the name of the Christ and through the merit of the shed blood of Christ.

I wish to say, however, that I have perfect confidence in you and feel that I can safely recommend you to anyone as a competent oculist.

Yours respectfully...

We can admire his faith, while disagreeing with him in the literal meaning of the passage quoted, and it is not an evidence of disbelief in the teachings of God's word if we question his judgment in the matter. The case in question is trachoma of long-standing, with thickened and roughened lids and well-marked pannus, complicated by ulceration of the cornea. Without treatment for some weeks the inevitable occurred: pain, photophobia, and impaired vision. The use of cupric sulfate lessened the trachoma condition very markedly and the instillation of atropine caused an immediate improvement in the ulcerative process, and it was at this stage, when the ulcer had healed and there was only the resulting cycloplegia, that he decided to rely on the efficacy of prayer. Prayer continued for several days will relieve cycloplegia, so will several days without prayer, and the veriest sinner will recover as quickly as any saint from the cycloplegic effect of atropine. It is fortunate that he did not begin this treatment of the ulcer before the beneficial effect of the atropine was secured, and it seems strange, and is the reason for comment, that an intelligent and reasoning man can fail to appreciate the physical and material logic of such a case.

The Workmen's Compensation Act

On the last day of the present legislative session, the General Assembly of the state passed an amended Workmen's Compensation Act which will serve to correct most of the flagrant abuses of the act hitherto in force. The new act permits the injured employee to select his own physician, extends the time in which the employer becomes responsible for medical treatment from 2 to 4 weeks, and gives the physician standing in a court of law, so that he may sue in his own name for the recovery of a disputed claim. The most important of the amendments for which we fought have been granted. The medical profession may justly feel that a notable victory has been achieved, and that the fairness of our contention that the former act worked a great hardship on the profession has been recognized by the law-makers.

This is also a significant victory for the workingman. The inalienable rights of every man, at time of injury or illness, to be able to summon a physician in whom he has confidence, is restored to the injured employee by this act. This legislation is preeminent in pointing the way to other democratic laws regarding the inherent rights of the workingman, which may be expected.

The committee of the Rhode Island Medical Society which has done such splendid and arduous work in pushing through this act is deserving of the congratulations and gratitude of every medical man in the state.

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Successfully Treated without Loss of Time,
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Nothing Like It

Brownell's Specific Medicine Does the Miraculous

**Alcoholics Return to Business, Even the Liquor Business
in 24 to 48 Hours, with Craving Gone Forever**

The "Worcester Magazine," official publication of the Worcester Chamber of Commerce, says:

"The Institute Co. specializes in the cure of Alcoholism and Drug Addictions with specific internal medicines, and had all the handicaps and obstructions created by quack medical companies to overcome before it secured a standing as a reputable concern."

The Hon. James Logan, former Mayor of Worcester for four terms, Vice-President and Manager of the United States Envelope Co., says:

"It would seem as if the day of miracles had not yet passed, for the way in which Brownell's Specific works borders on the miraculous."

Employers have found it profitable where valued employees are victims of alcohol to have them take the Brownell treatment.

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JOHN H. BROWNELL, Treasurer

Jackson Building Providence, R. I.

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Get Story of Physicians and Patients, both Alcohol and Drugs

Hospitals/Organizations

Cure for alcohol, drugs in as little as 30 minutes

Advertisements for a cure for alcoholism and drug addiction appeared in Providence and Massachusetts publications and magazines 100 years ago. The Medical Institute, the 'cure' company, had offices in Providence and Worcester, Mass.

As the advertisements indicate, The Restaurare Institute in Worcester claimed to offer a cure in as little as 30 minutes. According to an article in *The Worcester Magazine* in 1915, the "Institute Company specializes in the cure of alcoholism and drug addiction with specific internal medicines and had all the handicaps and obstructions created by quack medical companies to overcome before it secured a standing as a reputable concern....It is a product of scientific investigation, knowledge and experience of master minds in chemistry and medicine."

Harvard alumnus 1897, **Robert W. Guiler, MD**, served as medical superintendent.

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Laudanum
Paregoric
MORPHINE
Heroin
Cocaine
Chloral

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Worcester County Medical Institute Co.
40 Wellington Street, Worcester, Mass.

Alcoholics sobered in thirty minutes. Craving destroyed instantaneously and forever. Patients go about their business in from 24 to 48 hours and continue taking medicine for thirty days.

Telephone Park 175-W

THE WORCESTER MAGAZINE, JAN. 1915



The William Binney house on Prospect Street in Providence.

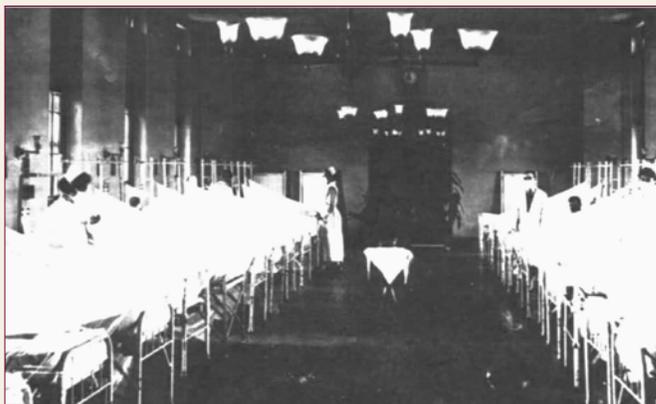
US Navy hospital to use Binney mansion

The Italianate-style brick William Binney house (1859), 72 Prospect Street in Providence, is accepted by the Navy Department for a convalescent hospital. Alpheus C. Morse, Providence architect, designed the three-story mansion. He was the architect for Rhode Island Hospital and Sayles Hall at Brown University.

Rhode Island Hospital

'The institution as a free horse is being ridden to death'

The Rhode Island Hospital has appealed to the towns for aid. It is facing a deficit of \$45,000 for the past year and unless the towns come forward with appropriations, their poor patients will have to be turned away. Seven hundred and forty-three free patients in the state outside the city were given 17,350 days treatment at the hospital in the last fiscal year at a cost of \$38,170, for which the communities from which they came paid nothing. The institution as a free horse is being ridden to death. Either the towns come across or they must make provision at home for their poor sick.



A ward at the Rhode Island Hospital circa 1917.

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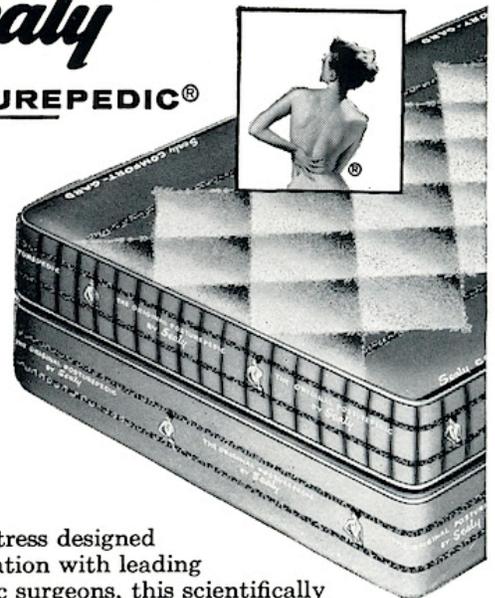


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City.....Zone.....State.....

Meetings

Meeting of Alienists and Neurologists

The annual meeting of Alienists and Neurologists will be held Monday, July 9 to Thursday, July 12, 1917 in the Red Room of the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, under the auspices of the Chicago Medical Society. Dr. George A. Zeller will act as chairman.

The topics for the meeting include: hospitals for cure, research, and prevention; colonies for the productive insane; therapeutic employment and reeducation; general paralysis of the insane; depressive insanity and the minor psychoses, delirium tremens and traumatic mental disturbances; legal aspects of insanity; dementia precox; epilepsy and the feeble-minded.

The program will be mailed June 28 with abstracts of each paper. Contributors to the program are solicited. This is a society without a membership fee. Address: Secretary A and N, room 1218, 30 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

Chiropodists to visit Providence

National Association to hold convention August 6; free clinics for the poor

Delegates to the convention of the National Association of Chiropodists from all parts of the United States will gather in Providence on August 6 to counsel over "the understandings of the people." The convention takes on an unusual interest this year on account of the importance given chiropody by the war.

The first office in America for the practice of scientific chiropody it is stated was opened in Boston in 1841. The second in this country was in Providence. The free clinic for the poor will be conducted in connection with the convention. The headquarters will be at the Narragansett Hotel and the clinics will be held mornings and afternoons.

Medical Research Club, April 4, 1917

Lantern slides, moving pictures shown of war surgery

Dr. Fred H Albee of New York entertained the club and invited guests at the Medical Library with a very interesting address on surgical experiences in France. The talk was informal and was illustrated by lantern slides and moving pictures showing surgical conditions and the actual technique of several operations. Among many noteworthy films were several showing extensive injuries to the jaw with great loss of substance, which had been restored by bone grafts into the mandible.

Appointments

DR. JOHN W. MITCHELL was reelected president of the Providence Lying-In Hospital.

DR. JOHN CHAMPLIN of Westerly was elected president of the Rhode Island Medical Society.

Necrology

DR. DAN O. KING of Auburn died April 8, 1917. He was born in Stillwater, Rhode Island, on December 15, 1850, a member of an old Rhode Island family, many of whom had followed the medical profession.

He graduated from Bowdoin College in 1875 and began the practice of medicine in Pontiac, Rhode Island. All of his practice had been in Cranston and Warwick, serving as medical examiner and

superintendent of health in Warwick, and was a member of the House of Representatives from that town in 1878, and a member of the Town Council and County physician in the town of Cranston.

Dr. King was something of a traveler, having visited Mexico, Alaska and Europe. He was one of the first men of Rhode Island to go to the Klondike, making the trip for the mere pleasure and adventure of it, and not in search for gold.

In medical matters he was a great student. He made a study of the disease of rabies and administered the first Pasteur treatment to the first person to receive it in the city.

70 YEARS AGO - MAY 1947

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