

(From secretary's notebook)

(To W. R. Boyd, Esq.,
State Board of Education,
Des Moines, Iowa)

Dear Sir:

Jan. 22-26, 1915.

The problem is one of great difficulty. Personally I think that in a hospital of that type closely associated with a University Clinic it is a great deal better to have the practice confined entirely to the members of the staff. It creates a hopeless confusion, particularly on the surgical side, to have half a dozen men in attendance whose ways of work are different. I could mention several hospitals in which it is most unsatisfactory in every respect, except to the few outside men who are naturally ambitious to have hospital connection, and the difficulty is an increasing one now that every fresh graduate aspires to become a surgical Mayo. For the sake of the public and of the profession, to say nothing of the University, it would be a great deal better to develop a few really distinguished men in the departments than to encourage a wholesale mediocrity.

Wm. Osler.