



OSLER'S NOTES

Sir William Osler (1849 – 1919), Physician-in-Chief at the then newly formed Johns Hopkins University Hospital and, later, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford University, has been considered “*the most influential physician in history*” and “*the best-known physician in the English-speaking world at the turn of the century*”. The *SMA News* will publish selected quotations from Sir William Osler in each of its upcoming issues that reflect his wisdom and thoughts on the medical profession and the world at large.

“Medicine is the only worldwide profession, following everywhere the same methods, actuated by the same ambitions, and pursuing the same ends. This homogeneity, its most characteristic feature, is not shared by the law, and not by the Church, certainly not in the same degree.”

(Source: Unity, Peace and Concord, in Aequanimitas, 429-30)

“Physicians, as a rule, have less appreciation of the value of organisation than members of other professions.”

(Source: The Functions of a State Faculty. Maryland Med J 1897; 37:73 – 7)

“To serve the art of medicine as it should be served, one must love his fellow man.”

(Source: The Evolution of Internal Medicine. In Modern Medicine: Its Theory and Its Practice. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers, 1907:34.) ■

