
THE JOURNAL
OF
EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE

INTRODUCTION.

THE need of an American journal devoted especially to the publication of original contributions to the medical sciences has been keenly felt for some time. Our investigators in these departments have hitherto been obliged either to publish their scientific papers, often in condensed form and imperfectly illustrated, in periodicals devoted mainly to the practical branches of medicine, or to send them, as has become increasingly the custom, to various scientific journals of Europe. The result has been that we ourselves, and in still greater measure foreigners, do not know where to look for many of the widely scattered contributions of American workers to physiology, pathology, bacteriology, and other medical sciences.

In consequence of the absence of such a journal as is here contemplated there has been a lack of the close contact and free interchange of ideas, both between our own workers and between American and foreign investigators, which are fruitful in stimulating scientific research and in securing both here and abroad due consideration of work done in this country.

An American journal devoted exclusively to the publication of original work in the medical sciences should aid materially that rapid advancement of scientific medicine which has been evidenced during recent years in this country by the elevation of the standards of medical education, by the establishment of well-equipped laboratories for the various medical sciences, by the increase in the num-

ber of well-trained workers to make use of these greater opportunities, by the growing number and importance of the contributions of American medical investigators, and by the wider appreciation and more generous support of scientific medical work.

It is believed to be for the interest both of the scientific worker and of the medical public that the first journal of this character established in this country should, like similar pioneer journals and some existing journals in other countries, embrace within its scope various allied medical sciences.

The title, *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*, has been selected in preference to a more specific but cumbersome designation in order to indicate broadly that the *Journal* is not intended for purely clinical contributions. In medical, no less than in other, sciences the great advances of modern times have been owing to the method of experiment combined with that of exact observation. The term "Experimental Medicine" in the title is not intended to imply that the publication of investigations based upon observation is not within the province of the *Journal*. Anatomical contributions both to physiology and to pathology are included within its scope.

It is intended that contributions in physiology and physiological chemistry shall be a prominent feature of the *Journal*. Physiology is the foundation of scientific medicine, and the combined representation in the *Journal* of physiology and pathology emphasizes their intimate union and mutual relations.

Pharmacology regarded as an experimental science, closely allied by its methods of work and by many of its problems to physiology, finds appropriate place in a journal of experimental medicine.

Studies in general pathology and pathological anatomy will constitute a large and important part of the material of the *Journal*.

While the broad and diversified field of modern hygiene can not be embraced in its entirety within the domain of the *Journal*, there are many directions of experimental research in this department which may appropriately be included.

The epochal discoveries of the causal relations of micro-organisms to infectious diseases have opened a fruitful and important field of research. No medical science is to-day cultivated more zealously and with more significant results than that of bacteriology, which will occupy a position in the *Journal* commensurate with its great importance.

While purely clinical observations do not come within the domain of *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*, its pages will be open to the publication of investigations such as are now made in some hospitals and clinical laboratories. Methods of the laboratory, microscopical, chemical, and bacteriological, have found fruitful application in the study of disease in the living patient, as is shown by the results of such hospital studies as those on the blood, on metabolism, on gastric contents, on the presence and significance of micro-organisms in infectious processes. It is in such directions as those here indicated that medicine appears as one of the departments represented in the *Journal*.

Although the subjects embraced within the scope of this *Journal*, as thus outlined, are highly specialized, still they have many interests in common as to their methods and problems and purposes, and it is believed that their alliance in the present *Journal* will prove of mutual advantage, will promote scientific medicine, and is best adapted to existing conditions in this country.

With the editor will co-operate a board of associate editors who are leading representatives of their special departments in the United States and Canada. The assistance of a large number of distinguished American collaborators who are active workers in the departments represented in the *Journal* has been secured. The gratifying success in obtaining this general co-operation, and the many spontaneous expressions of good will and approval which have already been received, inspire confidence that *The Journal of Experimental Medicine* will be truly representative of scientific medicine in the United States and Canada.

THE EDITOR.