

PEACE

WE take the opportunity of quoting from an editorial in the Surgeon's Hall Journal, issued by the students of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Edinburgh:

"In the midst of the world's turmoil, where brother fights brother and neighbors cut each other's throats, we, the doctors who have to mend those throats, should pause for a moment's meditation.

We take great pains in ushering the babes into the world—so that they will live. We treat the youngsters and youth—seeking to keep them fit to grapple with life, not with each other. We seek to lengthen life and keep people more fit to enjoy it. But there we stop with a suddenness that is shocking"

Your question has been anticipated, "What shall we do?" The answer is: read. Read political economy, sociology, history. You must have a certain knowledge in the social sciences in order to be able to understand the world in which you live. There is always the tendency, and a dangerous one among medical students, to devote themselves to two things,—medicine and having a good time. Both are extremely necessary, but not the sole things. A broad cultural background is necessary for success. A part of this broad culture is a thorough knowledge and understanding of events in the present day world.

Then and only then can we take an active part in the evolution that is to come. You as medical students are looked upon as the future medical men. Doctors have a certain standing in their community. They are looked upon as leaders in social developments to come by the lay people. So by reading and becoming acquainted with the problems before the world and disseminating your knowledge you will influence responsible fellow citizens who have the privilege to vote, and thereby influence the destiny of yours and other countries.

It is hoped that medical students are realizing that medicine and war are incompatible, that war will smash laboratories, destroy hospitals and make medicine but a pitiful mockery.