

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

## THE ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT, ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, TORONTO.

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TWELVE years have passed since the Academy of Medicine was brought into existence by an act of incorporation amalgamating the various medical societies which existed in Toronto, as individual institutions, in 1907. The objects of the Academy, as set forth in the Declaration of Incorporation were "the advancement of the art and science of medicine with its collateral branches; the promotion and maintenance of an efficient library and museum; professional improvement; the cultivation of harmony and good feeling among its fellows; and the promotion of the corporate influence of the profession in relation to the community." It is well to "take stock" occasionally in an institution like this and ask ourselves whether or not we have justified our existence in fulfilling the requirements demanded of us by the ideals which we set before us when we began our career. Hitherto your President of to-night has had little official connection with the academy and may therefore speak with less reserve. We may confidently assert that the objects aimed at have been attained, in some respects with greater success than we had anticipated. At times there were grave differences of opinion when "harmony and good feeling among the fellows" seemed in danger of being sacrificed. We came at times through stormy waters when indeed we were threatened with shipwreck but we weathered the storm and perhaps to-night we are stronger and more capable of greater achievement because of the fact that our experience has not always been in a smooth sea. The responsibility of the President in the Chair is very great in guiding the destinies of such a society. I appreciate the honour which has been conferred upon me, and in thanking you I can only say that my aim will be to justify to the best of my ability the confidence you have thus placed in me. I am sure I have the loyal support of the individual fellows and I sincerely trust we shall make good progress during the coming session in strengthening the society in its various activities and in making it still more effective than in the past in accomplishing the purpose we had in view when our academy came into existence.

Our library constitutes one of our chief assets. It is growing to such an extent that it is proving of great service to the fellows who wish to study medical literature. Most modern books of value, dealing with medical science, are found upon our shelves, but the greatest usefulness of the library is found in the periodical literature and reprints which