

MEDICAL NOTES.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE.

The Medical Society held its first meeting for the Easter term on Friday evening, Vice-President Mr. Harper in the chair. The programme was opened by a song from Mr. Skurie. Mr. Colter, of the College of Dentistry, then rendered a vocal selection, which was followed by a paper on "Malignant Disease of the Pylorus and its Surgical Treatment," by Mr. Bruce.

The masterful manner in which Mr. Bruce treated his subject reflects great credit both on himself and the Society. A discussion followed in which Drs. E. E. King, Peters, Third, Amyot and the Vice-President took part, and which was closed by Mr. Bruce. Many interesting points were brought out.

The closing feature of the evening was a lecture by Dr. King on the Endoscope and Cystoscope, the function and application of which is to illuminate internal cavities of the body. The lecturer illustrated his remarks from diagrammatic plates and a complete set of the apparatus used which was very elaborate, and gave evidence of the wonderful strides electricity has made in its scientific applications to medicine.

By a combination of optical reflectors and lenses, and the introduction of a very minute incandescent light enclosed in a tube into the cavity to be examined, the operator is enabled to aid his diagnosis by actually seeing the internal walls of the diseased cavity, and in the case of the Endoscope he can apply medicine directly to the exact seat of disease while observing it through the *oculaire*. At the close of his pleasing and most instructive paper, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered the genial doctor.

The only objectionable feature of the meeting was the lateness of the hour to which it was protracted, though the extremely interesting character of the proceedings somewhat offset this objection.

Possibly even this difficulty could be overcome and the boys allowed to reach their homes at the seasonable hour for which medical students are especially noted if the meetings were called sharp on time or even earlier.

The merit of good papers is very often detracted from on account of the necessity for haste.

The Christmas vacation is come and gone, and now the all-absorbing thought of the average medico is how he may best set his rigging for the severe storm fast approaching, and steer his bark safely through the shoals and quicksands of an examination.

The day is gone by when a medical examination could be faced with serene composure by the candidate and caused him little terror. Now it is only by the closest application to his studies and the concentration on them of all his energies that the student of ordinary intellectual ability, possessed of a fair amount of cerebral grey matter and the average number of cranial convolutions, can present himself for examination with a reasonable probability of being successful. But we would not wish it otherwise.

Probably no class of students is so hard pressed during the college term as the medical student. Almost up to the time of examination he is kept in close attendance on lectures and practical instruction the greater part of the day, leaving but a remnant of the latter and the evening for home study.

No breathing space between the closing of lectures and the commencement of examination is allowed the unfortunate disciple of Aesculapius in which he may at his leisure brush up doubtful points and fortify himself on all hands, but he is as it were precipitated headlong from the lecture-room into the examination hall. *O frater in artibus, ora pro nobis!*

The trouble which arose between the Mannattan Athletic Club and Yale, over the receipts of the Thanksgiving Day game, has been settled. Each college will receive something over \$14,000.

All the undergrads are now back from the Christmas Vacation, and are getting into the old routine of work, settling down with that grim determination peculiar to the Easter term. We are glad to see Mr. Angus Smith, of the second year, amongst us. Mr. Smith dropped out for the last term, but is now going on with this term's work. Kit Forrester, our famous representative at half-back on the National Football Team, is also expected back for his third year's work.

The Toxicological Laboratory, in the Chemical Department, has been lately remodelled and rearranged to go on with the fourth year work in Applied Chemistry. Mr. O. S. James, '91, is the only member of the new fourth year—in fact the only one in any of the courses.

A number of innovations are being introduced this year by the Faculty and "Board of Examiners." The changes are made especially in the drawing department, and on the whole do not appear to meet with the general approval of the students. The consequence is that several complaints have been made, but not with very satisfactory results.

The Mineralogical Laboratory in the north wing has been finally arranged, and work has now commenced in the several years in this department. It is certainly to be regretted that the last term was allowed to go by without any work being done in this laboratory, but it seems that the delay was unavoidable. The present indications are that all the years will have to put in extra time in this department to complete the work necessary for this session.

The committee on the publication of the Engineering Society Pamphlet is again at work to issue this year's number as soon as possible. They hope to get it into the hands of the students by the end of February. During the recent vacation a number of exchanges have been received from the Engineering Society at the University of Michigan. The publication called the *Technic* is very similar to our own, and contains much valuable matter, which is much appreciated by the S. P. S. men.

Complaints again are heard concerning the telephone service at the School. There is no telephone in the building which is at the disposal of students, and this is unfortunate. It is time for the authorities to take the matter in hand and see that the wants of the students are supplied in this direction.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The Natural Science Association held its first meeting for the year on the 12th inst. in the Chemical Lecture Room. The question of awarding the Cawthorne Medal was introduced by Dr. Miller, and on his motion the Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Shutt, the generous donor of the above medal, regretting that the Society had been guilty of negligence in not attending to the presentation of the medal to the gentleman who succeeded in winning it in '91. This oversight was in a measure due to the fact that the examining committee had not handed in a definite report to the Association.

The paper for the afternoon was read by Mr. Wheaton who spent all last summer as Government Inspector of cheese factories in the Maritime Provinces. The various instruments used by cheesemakers and others were well described; among them may be mentioned the Lactometer, Lactoscope, and especially the Babcock Milk Tester. After the essay, the President made some remarks as to the use of this latter instrument by Medical Health Officers.

The Association, at its next meeting, to be held on the 28th in the Biological Lecture Room, will have the pleasure of listening to Dr. Coleman, the newly appointed Mineralogist in the School of Science. We are sure of an excellent address, and the members are requested to turn out *en masse* and welcome Dr. Coleman.