

CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

MEDICAL SECTION—ELECTION OF OFFICERS—INTERESTING PAPER
FROM DR. AGNEW.

The regular meeting of this society took place on Saturday evening last. Dr. Thorburn in the chair. The attendance of medical men was large. After preliminary business the following gentlemen were elected office bearers for the ensuing year:—E. M. Hodder, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., chairman; J. N. Agnew M.D., secretary, and Drs. Thorburn, W. W. Ogden, Roseburgh, committee.

After the election, Dr. Agnew read an interesting communication, of which the following is a synopsis:—

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The passing year has not, so far as the city is concerned, been remarkable for any visitation of epidemic disease. Notwithstanding the almost unprecedented depth of rain that fell in May and the early part of June, and the long continued drought, and extreme heat of July and August, the health of the city may be said to have been very good indeed—quite up to the best average. During the year scarlatina of a peculiar type prevailed to a considerable extent, presenting an aspect not entirely new to medical observers, but still sufficiently novel to be worthy of notice. The cases that came under my own observation varied considerably, but nearly all of them had the dual aspect, more or less marked, we should expect to meet in a simultaneous attack of measles and scarlet fever if that were possible. In some instances the coryza and bronchial cough usually preceding a simple attack of measles, with slight soreness, only of the throat, were the predominant symptoms, while in others the early symptoms were all such as usually usher in scarlet fever more or less severe. But the most noticeable peculiarity, so far as my observation has served me, was the rash, which presented in combination some of the characteristic appearances of both measles and scarlet fever. In most of my cases, however, the color of the eruption was of a duskier hue than usual, in the simple forms of those diseases, and in several fatal cases the prominent symptoms present apart from the eruption were those of the malignant type of scarlet fever. The susceptibility to the disease did not appear to me to have been affected by a former, and even recent attack of measles, and, in two or three instances it followed a former invasion of scarlatina.

The extreme and long continued heat of July and August resulted in an usual number of cases of sun stroke, both in this city and throughout the country, and many sudden deaths were recorded from this cause.