

The newly-elected Vice-President having taken the chair, the retiring PRESIDENT, Dr. J. G. Adami, delivered the following address.

President's Address.

In reviewing the work accomplished by our Society during the past year, it is impossible to restrain a laudatory tone and, as speaking on behalf of the Society, one of definite self-appreciation. Just as the cloud has its silver lining and untoward events some compensatory benefit, so now the very irregularity of my presence in the chair in which you did me the great honour of installing me a year ago, permits me to give vent to the fullest expressions of congratulation upon the good deeds of the Society while at the same time not seeming "to pat myself upon the back," if I may employ this homely term. How much I would have given to prevent my frequent absence from your meetings, I cannot say; the matter is so immediately personal that I cannot dwell upon it. This, however, I may venture, that in the rapid advances made by the Society during the past twelve months we have but another demonstration of how largely the welfare of a body like ours depends upon its secretary. An active secretary, keenly interested in the work of his society or corporation, ready to spend no small amount of time in hunting up those willing and capable to make communications, and having a ready recognition of what will make the meetings attractive, is the greatest factor in making the meetings thoroughly live and successful and in ensuring good attendance. Such a secretary I am glad to say we have found in Dr. Bazin, and departing from precedent, I am glad, first of all, to call attention to the rôle played by him in bringing about the good results of last session's work. Nor again, though I can in this matter, of necessity, only speak from hearsay, can I neglect to express our appreciation of the active services of the 1st and 2nd vice-presidents. For once these positions have not been sinecures, and much is owing to Dr. Lafleur and Dr. Elder for their superintendence over the meetings of the society on very many occasions. Unfortunately, through illness our treasurer, Dr. Jack, is absent to-night and cannot receive in person the token of our recognition of the large amount of time he has freely given to the somewhat thankless and uninteresting task of caring for our finances. Through his watchful care of our interests, the financial position of the Society is much better than it has been for very many years, and following the present policy, which he has been largely instrumental in developing, we are now on the high road towards possessing such a balance at the banker's that we may look forward without anxiety to soon acquiring a permanent meeting-place of our own.

The Secretary's report has brought forward clearly and concisely the