

Registrar. He explained that the Medical Library Association has no connection with the Council beyond renting a room from it. His remarks were listened to with great attention, although there was strong feeling among many against the Medical Council and the powers it had acquired by recent legislation.

Dr. Raikes of Midland read a paper on Puerperal Eclampsia, attributing the great frequency of the disease in his locality to the amount of lime in the water, an opinion, however, which was not generally shared. When the question of treatment came up, the general opinion was that premature delivery at the seventh month was the best, while bromide and chloral were found to be the best palliatives.

Dr. McCallum read a paper on chloroform inhalation, and Dr. Greig of Toronto one on disinfection after infectious disease. Dr. Z. T. Duncan read a paper on the nervous methods of treating whooping cough.

Dr. Wolfred read a very interesting account of a case of club foot which he had cured by operation. Dr. Z. Olmstead of Hamilton then followed with the report of a case of brain injuries, of which he also exhibits the case. The young man had a staggering gait and strabismus, there was also double optic neuritis. There was no history of syphilis. His diagnosis was a tumor of the cerebellum. Dr. Graham of Toronto agreed as to the diagnosis, although it was difficult to understand why a tumor so far back should cause inflammation of the optic nerve. He believed in iodide of potassium, although after a time it lost its effects. The next paper was by Dr. Groves of Fergus, Ont., entitled "The Dressing of the Wound after suprapubic cystotomy." A very interesting paper was one by Dr. A. B. Atherton, of Toronto, on "Suturing of The External Popliteal Nerve," of which he exhibited a case. A discussion on the present status of Antiseptics in Surgery was then opened by Dr. R. B. Nevitt, of Toronto, followed by Dr. J. K. Holmes, of Chatham, A. Powell, of Toronto, and Dr. Geo. A. Peters, of Toronto. The general opinion was that asepsis were more important than antiseptics, and wherever the steam sterilizer could be employed it was best to use it. Some of the speakers having complained that boiling steel instruments caused them to rust, it was shown that this could be prevented by the addition of a teaspoonful to the gallon of washing soda, or, equally well, by wrapping the instruments in a towel. As far as the hands were concerned, what is generally known as "Kelley's" method of blackening them in a saturated solution of permanganate of potash, and afterwards bleaching them in a saturated solution of oxalic acid, was recommended. As far as the patient was concerned, this was more difficult, as it had been shown that colonies of bacteria existed below the surface of the skin.

Another interesting point that came out in the discussion was, that it was not the bacteria themselves which did the mischief, but the ptomaines or albuminoses, excreted by the bacteria, and which were thrown out in an advancing circle, killing the tissues before them. It was on this killed tissue that the bacteria flourished. It was shown that microbe organisms of disease had no effect on healthy tissue; but when the vitality of the tissues was lowered by injury or by the destructive action of the excreta above mentioned, the phagocytic powers of the organism were lost.

A recent paper by Dr. Carr, of Washington, which appeared in last month's RECORD, goes into this subject very fully.

One of the greatest treats of the meeting was an address by the silver-tongued orator of Boston, Dr. Henry O. Marcey, on the anatomy and the surgical treatment of Hernia. He convinced his audience that the radical cure of inguinal-hernia was one of the surest operations in surgery, and could be done with almost no risk. He employed the buried kangaroo tendon, which owes its adoption so largely to his persuasive advocacy of it.

Another very pleasant feature of the first evening's session was a magic lantern demonstration of bacteria by Drs. R. Spencer and W. R. Shaw, of Toronto. The next morning's session was taken up with a symposium upon the pneumonias of children, including the diagnosis of lobar from lobular pneumonia, and of pneumonia from bronchitis, from Dr. Machell, of Toronto. The diagnosis of lobular pneumonia, acute and chronic, from tuberculosis, by Dr. G. M. Shaw of Hamilton; and the diagnosis of pneumonic consolidation from pleural effusion, by Dr. W. H. Henderson of Kingston; and the prognosis in pneumonias generally by Dr. Allan Baines, of Toronto. There was also a paper on the treatment of pneumonia by Dr. J. J. Brown of Owen Sound, and a case of acute suppurative pleurisy, by Dr. H. S. Clerke, of Lucan. Dr. Saunders of Kingston read a paper on Herpes, and Dr. C. K. Clark of Kingston reported two cases of lethargy. In the surgical section there was a paper by Dr. Sterling Ryerson on "Otitic Cerebral Abscess," and one on Angina Ludovici by Dr. G. L. Mackelcan of Hamilton. This was followed by a symposium upon hip joint disease, in which the general opinion was that if there was pus it should be let out and the diseased surfaces curetted and disinfected, although some were in favor of an expectant treatment and others of mechanical treatment; those who were in favor of the latter advocated a splint which would allow the patient to go about. Dr. Meek of London read a paper on "Ventral Hernia," in which he advocated a flap splitting operation, similar to that employed by Lawson Tait in lacerated perineum. Dr. Dupuis of King-