

for him to give us first his impressions of this work—of course it has all been new to him—and whatever else he may wish to say to you about it. Then, I should like for you, as many as may wish of the members of this Society, to go to the histological laboratory and look at the fillings under the microscope. There you can see the amount of shrinkage as revealed by the microscope. See for yourselves what it means, and make out in your mind, if you can, what I shall mean when I tell you that this amalgam has shrunk ten points, or eight points, or seven points. See for yourself, for these things can be seen by anyone. We make them directly tangible to the senses. By this observation I think you will be much better enabled to understand what I mean when I say that this or that filling has shrunk so much.

Dr. WILLMOTT:

*Mr. President and Gentlemen,*—Since the meeting of the Toronto Dental Society on Wednesday evening at half-past seven, I have been working every spare moment night and day at these measurements, and I have not had time since Dr. Black asked me to give my impressions of the measurements to compare the records one with another. What I have seen, though, impresses me very forcibly with the fact that we cannot depend on amalgam. What has impressed me more than anything else, apart from the amalgam, is the wonderful accuracy with which Dr. Black makes a measurement to forty-thousandths of an inch, leave it for half an hour and then test it and it is exactly the same as it was. As far as I have had time to look at the records it seems to me it makes very little difference as to manipulation, but it is in the preparation of the cutting and the annealing. It will not be proper for me to make any comparison of the records. Dr. Black has already made that, and will give you that far more accurately than I can if I had studied the record for a week. Just one point about the shrinkage. It may seem to you but a very small shrinkage. Compare the distance between the amalgam and the edge of the tube under the microscope. Compare the distance with the size of the micro-organisms that we understand are present. We can get three hundred or four hundred of them side by side in that space.

Dr. BLACK—Now, Dr. Noyes and Dr. Willmott have arranged a number of specimens in such a way that you can pass in single file and examine all of them without crowding. Make it a point to do that and view the specimens and return in the same way and we will be able to see them quickly and have no confusion, and particularly note the amount of shrinkage or the amount of separation of the amalgam from the walls of the tubes. (Members of Society