

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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I DESIRE to express my keen appreciation of the honor done me in electing me President of the Academy of Medicine of Toronto for the present year. To follow in the footsteps of such distinguished men as our past presidents is no small undertaking, and I approach it with a considerable amount of trepidation. However, with the aid of the Fellows and their co-operation in all our undertakings, I hope we will pass through this, a very trying year, as successfully as we have come through the past. The war is over, as far as the fighting is concerned, the settlements are being signed, but as to the future we are very unsettled. Affairs are in a state of chaos, and will remain so for the space of two or three years at any rate. The general unrest reflects itself in our profession, but, I am very pleased to say, in a lesser degree than in most walks of life.

The one hundred and fifty Fellows of the Academy of Medicine who went overseas, and the many who served full time at home, are all deserving of the highest degree of appreciation that we, their co-Fellows and members of the profession in general can give them. The seven who made the supreme sacrifice died in the cause which was worthy of the best, and their memory will linger long with those of us who came into touch with them, and longer with those who knew them intimately. The medical profession, as a whole, has every right and reason to be most justly proud of the work done by their confreres in this great conflict. They were selected for posts of highest honor, and heavy responsibilities were placed upon them, and they came through, having always attained their objective, and having received the greatest praise from those in high command. But let me digress so far as to say that, because a man's name has not been brought to the public eye by those in command does not in any way indicate that his deeds have not been equally heroic with those whose names are on every tongue, for, in the stress of war, often the noblest deeds are those done with the least ostentation, and the least thought of forthcoming honors. In all branches of the service there are more heroes whose deeds are unsung than those that are recognized.

Of the fifteen hundred officers who served in the C.A.M.C. during the war, a great number were young men of little or no experience, some of whom had been in practice a very short time, many were recent graduates, and others had not graduated. The services of these men were