

which I was then a resident than as a recognition of any service I had rendered in promoting the interests of the association. Although I have very frequently, during the year, wished that some one more richly endowed with the wisdom which more advanced age and experience confers had been chosen, I can assure you that the many evidences of confidence and acts of courtesy I have received in the discharge of my pleasant duties will long remain a precious memory. As one of the youngest ever chosen to fill this position, I have continually felt the necessity for guidance and dependence upon those whose more mature years and professional experience so well qualified them to advise and direct. To those who have so generously assisted me in the discharge of my duties my sincere thanks are most heartily tendered. The work necessary in preparation for such a meeting as this is full of interest and instruction. It has, necessarily, given me a broader and clearer insight into the forces and motives which underlie our professional work, and I have been more impressed than ever with the strength and importance of the Ontario Medical Association, and the important place it holds in maintaining the present standing and determining the future development of the medical profession in this province. The interest which has been manifested in every meeting of the association since its formation is convincing evidence of the fact that the worth of such an organization is appreciated. Our annual meetings have fostered the devotion to scientific investigation and engendered a mutual respect and good feeling among the members. The bill of fare set before you at this meeting reflects great credit on the committee, whose members have been untiring in their efforts to provide a programme at least equal to any other in the history of the association. The special committee in charge of the arrangements has, as its report indicates, left nothing to be desired. My grateful appreciation of the labors of these workers cannot be adequately expressed.

Many of those who have preceded me in this position have, in their annual addresses, been called upon to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of some past president of the association. It is a melancholy fact that many of those who have been honored with this office have ceased from their labors and are at rest. He who two years ago presided, with characteristic grace, over the deliberations of this association is missing from our gathering to-day. I refer to the late Dr. R. W. Hillary, of Aurora, who died in October last. Known, as the deceased was, to many members of our association as a worthy and upright man, and an honor to the ranks of the profession he adorned, no words of mine are needed to add lustre to his memory.

In the early years of this association, when much of its future success depended upon the foundation upon which the organization rested, we