

heart's action became emphatically weaker, a temporary effect being got at an enormous cost. The action of alcohol on the central nervous system was very definite, and was that of a functional poison, first stimulating and then depressing the nervous system. The higher nervous centres went first, becoming slightly dulled. The man who worked on even a moderate amount of alcohol was not at his best.

Fine work could not be done under that condition. The use of alcohol was absolutely inconsistent with a surgeon's work or with any work demanding quick and alert judgment. He was much struck by the number of professional men who for this reason had discontinued the use of alcohol in the middle of the day. The last notion he would refer to was that alcohol kept out the cold—that a "little nip" was good when going out into cold air, and so forth. In the words of a great authority, alcohol really lowered the temperature of the body by increased loss of heat and to some extent by increased oxidation, and much reduced the power of the body to resist cold. Finally, he would say that the great and laudable ambition of all, and especially of young men, to be "fit" could not possibly be achieved if they took alcohol. It was simply preposterous to suppose that any young healthy person needed any alcohol whatever; and, indeed, he was much better without even the smallest amount of it. Having spent the greater part of his life operating, he would say, with Sir James Paget, that of all people those he dreaded to operate on were the drinkers. He hoped that what he had said would help his hearers to answer such absolute fallacies as "a glass of port can do you no harm."

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AIDS NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL.

At a meeting of the Board of the Toronto General Hospital a short time ago, the agreement lately entered into between the University of Toronto and the hospital trustees for the erection of a laboratory on part of the site of the new General Hospital on College street was formally ratified.

This agreement calls for the erection on the southwestern corner of the General Hospital site on College street of a splendid laboratory to be used by the university. When completed it is expected to be one of the finest and best equipped buildings of its kind on the continent, and for that matter in the world. Under their original agreement the university promised the hospital trustees \$300,000 towards the cost of purchasing the land and erecting the building. The Board of Governors of the university have now increased this sum by \$400,000, to be paid in a series of installments spread over forty years. This would bring the funds supplied by the university up to the substantial total of \$700,000. The