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Noted Surgeon Talks of India

How he ran a hospital in India for \$4,000 a year, six hundred surgical beds being filled for four months in the year, was described by Lieut.-Col. Henry Smith, C.I.E., I.M.S., the eminent surgeon, in an address before a large audience of members of the medical profession at the Mines Building of the University. The walls of this hospital building were of bricks and mud, the interior walls being plastered with mud and cow manure. Col. Smith explained the difficulties of running such an institution on his small allowance, saying that the modern paraphernalia of sterilized sheets and dressings he had never gone in for, because he had never been able to afford it.

Dealing with the question of staff, Col. Smith said his experience was that a hospital establishment should be up to exactly what was required and not one maid more—that every one of them should have an honest day's work to do. "If one of them has only half-a-day's work to do," said the speaker, "the lady bossing the show will have a lot more trouble than if each one had an honest day's work. I had quarrels to settle every day of the week. My way of settling the differences was to decrease the staff, and the quarrels ceased." (Laughter.) Col. Smith thought that ladies having charge of such institutions might find

that his observations applied on this continent as well as in India.

"My cases," he proceeded, "never did better than in the old hospital plastered with mud and cow manure. The point I wish to press is that the increase of ritual does not imply increase in efficiency in the treatment of disease."

Col. Smith's address was of a technical nature throughout, dealing with many of the remarkable surgical cases which he handled during his long experience in India.

The meeting, which was presided over by Dr. R. T. Noble, was held under the auspices of the Academy of Medicine. A vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer on the motion of Dr. Fotheringham, seconded by Dr. Rudolf. The latter, who has also spent some years in India, pointed out in reference to the lecturer's remarks on the cost of the hospital, that India was at the time referred to as a very cheap country. "When Col. Smith went there," Dr. Rudolf said, "things cost almost nothing. In our house we had 25 servants, and they cost less, than one ill-trained maid in Toronto."

Dr. Routley Not an Editor of the Canada Lancet

We regret that owing to a misunderstanding of our instructions to the printing department of the Canada Lancet, the name of Dr. Routley has been listed as a member of the Editorial Board of this journal.

Dr. Routley we regret to state has no connection with the Canada Lancet.

We are making this announcement in the hope that there may remain no hint of the false position in which this unfortunate error has placed Doctor Routley.

D. E. MacVannell,
Business Manager.