

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL:

While taking a few weeks' rest it has been convenient for me to be at St. Augustine, Fla., during the meeting of the Southern Branch of the National Dental Association held Feb. 22-24. The attendance, I am told, was not as large as usual, owing to the time of year at which it is held, this being the working season for the profession in the south. It was, however, a convention of strong, brainy, representative men who have the welfare of the profession and interest of the public at heart. Many of them are standard-bearers who are known to us all for what they have said and done. The number of young men present and taking prominent part was very noticeable; many of these are pouring into the science of dentistry their best life blood. These young men are already talking to us through the professional press. Several of the colleges were represented by one or more professors.

Much time was necessarily consumed by the revision of the constitution and reorganization, this being the first meeting since the union of the "Southern" and "American," but the business was disposed of in the most business-like and dignified way by the President, Dr. E. P. Beadle, of Danville, Va. The address of the President was a thoughtful presentation of facts and suggestions for the future. It elicited a great deal of well-timed discussion.

There were about twenty papers read, and they were all modern, up-to-date and full of good things, many of them well sustained by models and illustrations. Without making comparison of their relative value, it might be well to mention a few papers and thereby draw the attention of the profession in Canada to these as they may appear in the journals.

Dr. A. L. Fort, of Atlanta, gave a paper entitled "Asepsis," which was illustrated by cultures in agar-agar and bouillon, from operating instruments which had not been properly cleansed. It was an object lesson of terrible meaning.

Dr. T. P. Hinman, of Atlanta, lectured on and exhibited the Roentgen rays, showing the use of the instrument in dentistry. (Dr. Hinman is an Ontario boy, who promises to be a credit to the old sod.) He also presented some very beautiful X-ray photographs of his own production.

Dr. Weld, of New York, read a paper, which was illustrated by stereopticon views, on the treatment and filling of small and tortuous nerve canals by a chemico-metallic process. It was most interesting and bristled with suggestions.