

Dr. Wyatt Johnston gave a short account of some examinations which he and Dr. H. D. Hamilton had made of the sputum of cases of heart disease. The sputum was frequently found to contain large epithelioid cells filled with brown pigment masses—the so-called “heart-failure cells” of E. Wagner. He considered that the diagnostic significance of these structures had been overlooked. They were uniformly present in cases where compensation was failing, and would probably afford a valuable prognostic indication in cases where applications for life insurance were entertained in spite of the existence of a heart murmur. They were not found in the conditions where traces of blood occurred in the sputum, except where hemorrhagic infarction was present—a condition most commonly met with, however, in heart disease. In a great many cases it was difficult to obtain any sputum, but this could be overcome with an intelligent patient by examining a little mucus hawked up from the back of the throat in the morning. If this was impossible a mild expectorant might be given.

Dr. Elder gave a brief summary of his paper on “Traumatic Separation of the Lower Epiphysis of the Femur.”

Dr. Shepherd thought the condition was very often confounded with dislocation.

Dr. McConnell read a paper on “A Case of Impacted Gallstones followed by Abscess of the Liver.”

The Rev. Dean Carmichael entered during the reading of the paper and was invited to take a seat on the platform.

Dr. Geo. Ross saw the case reported by Dr. McConnell, and was satisfied there was no malignant disease at the time when he recommended an operation, which was refused.

Dr. A. Laphorn Smith read a paper on “A Further Plea for the A.C.E. Mixture.”

Dr. Stirling consented to consider his paper as read—“Cerebral Abscess following Mastoiditis. Operation. Recovery.”

Dr. Proudfoot gave a brief summary of his paper on “Occlusion of Auditory Mentus by Hyperostosis.”

OTTAWA MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of this Society, held on October 9th, the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—President, Dr. L. C. Prevost; 1st Vice-President, Dr. W. C. Cousens; 2nd Vice-President, Dr. A. A. Henderson; Treasurer, Dr. R. W. Powell; Secretary, Dr. C. J. H. Chipman; Curator, Dr. J. A. Grant; Librarian, Dr. H. B. Small; Council, Drs. McDougall, Hurdman, Robillard, Dewar, Wright and Horsey.