MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

In our last issue we published a report of the second annual meeting of the Toronto Clinical Society. We are pleased to be able to congratulate the members of this Society on having completed a very successful year.

We are pleased to note the fact that there seems to be a growing feeling among the medical profession in Ontario for the organization of societies for promoting discussion on medical, surgical and pathological subjects. Here in Toronto we have the Toronto Medical Society, the Pathological Society, and the Toronto Clinical Society, each of which invites members to contribute original articles.

Each society is established on the basis that each member should freely give his confreres the benefit of any discovery or advance made by him in medical science. One of the chief beauties of the medical profession is, we think, that there are no patents or copyrights. Should one of our number make a discovery he does not register it and allow no one else to use it, but on the contrary he publishes it, or in some way makes it known, so

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that the medical profession at large may use it for the prevention and cure of disease, which is of course the highest aim and object of the medical profession.

We physicians know how valuable a teacher experience is. We know that it is practically impossible for a physician to successfully combat disease should he confine himself altogether to that knowledge which he has derived from his books. Far be it from us to deride the use of text books; they are ab-olutely necessary to the student of medicine to thoroughly understand and appreciate the many and varied phases in which disease presents itself to us. But we maintain that in every-day practice the cases we get rarely simulate the typical case described in the text-books. What then can be a better method of gaining experience than by joining and attending the meetings of a society that has for its main object the open discussion of original papers on medical subjects? Let us the fore further our education not only by remembering our own experience but also by gaining the experence of others, remembering always that each one of our profession has the opportunity



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