

of the country. Mr. LaJeane, the assistant manager of the C.P.R. hotels, who acted as host, responded to the toast in a few words, and heartily welcomed the guests.

After the luncheon there was a short meeting of the executive committee to draw up proposals to be submitted to the general meeting.

One of these proposals was that the next convention of the Association be held at Winnipeg.

At 5 o'clock the party left on the return trip to Ottawa. The doctors, individually, and as a body, give unstinted praise to the Canadian Pacific for the perfect and unique entertainment it devised on their account.

The Medical Association resumed business after the excursion to Caledonia Springs in the afternoon, and listened to two interesting papers by Dr. J. S. Risien Russell, of London, Eng., and Dr. John C. Munro, of Boston, Mass.

Dr. Russell's Paper on "The Use of Reflexes in Diagnosis," was technical in its nature, but for the benefit of the laity who were present he simplified his explanations where he could and made clear the meaning of the true reflex. From the standpoint of the members of the Association, Dr. Russell's contribution to the programme of the annual meeting was of unusual importance.

At this stage the lecturer sat down, and crossing his legs in the usual fashion tapped the knee of the suspended leg. The limb below the knee jerked. That, explained, constituted a reflex action. The same process, too, he pointed out, could be repeated by tapping the ankle, when under certain conditions the foot would move as the leg had done in the other experiment. Having thus made comprehensible the word on which an understanding of the matter with which he was dealing turned, he proceeded to suggest the uses to which a test of the reflexes could be put in diagnosing neurotic or nervous diseases. While not in all cases infallible, he stated that not infrequently the value of the reflexes in differential diagnosis was beyond doubt. In cases of suspected locomotor ataxia the reflexes could be used to determine the nature and extent of the lesion. In a certain type of diseases of the nerves or brain the knee jerks would be abolished. In others it would be exaggerated. This it was explained, was the principle at the basis of the use of the reflexes.

"For instance," said the speaker, "if when I tickle the feet of my patient the toes crumple up, I regard that as a good sign. If, however, on tickling the sole the toes do not contract, but, on the contrary, remain normal or are extended, that I regard as a bad sign and a cause for anxiety."