

INAUGURAL MEETING.

In the absence of Sir Oliver Mowat, Professor Clark took the chair.

THE CHAIRMAN—I am very sorry, indeed, to have to announce the inability of Sir Oliver Mowat to be present at this meeting this evening. I am sure he would have been pleased to have been here and to have taken part in the good work in which we are engaged; but as it is impossible for him to be here, the duties of filling the position of Chairman have devolved upon me.

I am not going to detain you, ladies and gentlemen, by any extensive setting forth of the objects of this meeting; that will be done by our President, Dr. Barriek, who has mastered the whole subject completely. You will also hear other speakers of eminence who are familiar with the subject. I may just remind you that this is one of the most important undertakings in which men can possibly be engaged, that of endeavoring to shut out and put down that awful malady in the human family. You will hear from Dr. Barriek and others that this terrible disease of consumption, which we once thought was merely hereditary and incurable, is not always hereditary, although the predisposition to it may be inherited. We find it is contagious; we find to a large extent that it is curable. If that be the case, it becomes an absolute duty for all men and women who love their kind to do all in their power to remove this scourge from the face of the earth.

With regard to the meeting to-night, it is a matter of great satisfaction to see that so much interest is being taken in our enterprise. You will be addressed by gentlemen belonging to all the churches. We have here Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Hebrews, Presbyterians, Methodists and representatives of almost every conceivable creed. We do not come here to propagate any opinions which we may hold as individuals; we come here engaged in a work for humanity with one heart and mind.

I have very great pleasure in calling upon the President to deliver his inaugural address.

THE PRESIDENT, E. J. BARRICK, Esq., M.D.—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: Before commencing my address I wish to read a short letter from one who has done more to advance this cause than perhaps any person in this country, who has been instrumental in introducing into the Legislature at the last session a Bill which makes it possible to bring a Sanatorium within reach of every consumptive in every municipality of this Province. I refer to the Hon. J. R. Stratton, whom we expected to have had with us to-night.