

absolute silence? Such a procedure is anything but encouraging to those who would otherwise present papers to this Society. I would therefore strongly urge our members not to be so indifferent to the subject presented to them, and of which due notice is sent, but to devote a little time to thinking over the subject to be considered at a future meeting, and come prepared to discuss it to some extent. This is especially applicable to our junior members, who, however, offer as excuses diffidence, and even fear, or want of experience in addressing an audience; but if one will advance oneself, one must be prepared to be differed from at times. Such differences have often proved of the most value in promoting interesting discussions.

To juniors, to whom I most earnestly appeal, I would say, do not for a moment think that nothing occurs in your practice which would not be of interest to your colleagues. It is by the smallest beginning that men have made themselves famous. You are the backbone of this Society, and in your hands lies its future. We are all here as students, and even the oldest may learn from the youngest. The duty which you have honoured your officers with is to say the least of it onerous, and it remains with you to make it as light and prosperous as possible. Therefore, be up and doing, and so further the reputation and good work which this Society is endeavouring to carry out.

Another matter which, I think, demands the attention of the members of the Society is the question of the Hospital for Infectious Diseases. We are entering upon a season during which infectious diseases are especially apt to be prevalent, and with absolutely no provision to cope properly with such cases to the best advantage to the general community. I think, therefore, it is very desirable that some form of protest against delays in promoting this hospital should receive support from such an important body of medical men which this Society represents, and would therefore suggest, if I may be allowed to do so, that those now in office take some steps towards furthering this object.

In conclusion, to those who have been associated with me in office during the past two sessions, and to the members in general, I desire to express my warmest thanks for the cordial support given to me upon all occasions, and to this support is largely due whatever success has attended our efforts. I would therefore ask each of you to accord to our newly elected President and his able assistants the same cordial support.

At the conclusion of the address the thanks of the Society were given to Dr. Birkett and to the retiring officers. A smoking concert was held, in which Drs. Harvey, Craig, Haldimand, Lauterman and Morphy took a part.