

about to run on to its own destruction, when Lister came to the rescue and gave us a new surgery. He pointed out the way to overcome the enemy, the means to be used in its destruction, and what should be done to prevent its resurrection. His discovery has prolonged thousands of lives and obviated many millions of days of pain and suffering. The human mind can form no just estimate of what has been added to man's happiness and comfort by the labours of this great benefactor of the human race. He has taught us that if we wish to live we must be clean; that nature loves the pure, the clean, the undefiled. Following his methods, we now perform operations with confidence and success that in pre-aseptic days would certainly have been followed by death. We are now able to preserve damaged parts, retain important functions and supply deficiencies that would certainly have been sacrificed prior to his time. The apostles of science know no rest, and what advances may be made in the future I cannot conceive. But of one thing I am satisfied, that man must go ahead; he could not go backward if he would; the struggle for higher realities will ever remain. Electricity is still in its infancy; it is but the toy with which science has been amused. In the near future we may look for wonderful achievements; we will have a wider culture, a higher standard of literature, of art and of medical science. During the years that medicine was making such rapid strides, the specialist grew with great rapidity, but we need not fear; if there has been an overgrowth, old Father Time will effect the cure. The general practitioner still exists and will continue to live.

It now becomes my duty, on behalf of the medical profession of Canada, to extend to the members of the British Medical Association a most cordial and sincere welcome. We are fully aware of the importance of their meeting and of the honor conferred on ourselves and on our esteemed and distinguished countryman, the president, Dr. Thomas G. Roddick. I am sure that the citizens of this city, who are noted for their hospitality, and all Canadians will do their utmost to make their stay in this country as pleasant and profitable as possible. As the circumstances under which we meet to-day are somewhat unique, I may be pardoned if I again digress to some extent from the line pursued by my illustrious predecessors. I am led to believe that the members of the British Medical Association have come here from across the sea, not alone for the purpose of ascertaining what we know about medicine, and of imparting further knowledge, but they have come as true physicians and scientists who labour for the benefit of humanity and who desire to obtain a knowledge of all and every