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ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, TORONTO

By D. J. GIBB WISHART, M.D.

I HESITATE to appear before you this evening and from this seat to address you upon subjects upon which I feel so ignorant.

This Academy which I watched through its pre-natal development and at whose birth I assisted, has become in the ten years of its existence such a healthy thriving youngster with such a capacity for earnest achievement, and withal, with a wilful temper requiring guidance and perhaps the curb, that my heart may well fail me lest I come short in making the year of my official control one of distinct progress.

The rule by which you enlist for three years the services of the individual selected for your highest office—the first year as vice-president, the second as president and the third as consultant in chief—is, to my mind, most wise for thereby he is at once trained and stimulated.

It is my pleasing duty to direct your thought first to the programme for the year's study. The programme should be annually prepared in advance with a view to definite progress in a scientific direction. It should not be arranged haphazard or capriciously.

Each eminence gained upon our path opens up vistas of land unexplored. It is given to our profession to pursue as fascinating an exploration of new truths as ever it was to those intrepid voyagers who threaded their way across the ocean, entered the Hudson Straits or the mighty St. Lawrence and blazed their path across this continent to the Pacific. It may be, at times, a false idea,