

TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

We are glad to be able to publish in this issue a report of the discussion which took place in the Medical Faculty Building on the evening of October 10th. It happened, fortunately, through the foresight of the Hospital Board, that Mr. Thomas Bengough, a chartered stenographic reporter, was present and took down all the remarks of the various speakers in shorthand. Our excellent report, which is to some extent condensed, may be considered absolutely correct.

Thirty-nine members of the Medical Faculty were in attendance, and a careful perusal of the discussion will show that the differences of opinion among the speakers were very slight. Dr. McPhedran, in the early part of his address, spoke strongly in favor of the German methods; in fact, he stood almost alone as the champion of these methods. While nearly all the other members of the Faculty differed from him in this regard, they probably agreed with most of the other opinions which he expressed. His criticisms of the methods of making appointments and allotting work to senior and junior teachers were apt and just. His statement that juniors should be encouraged to go abroad and remain for extended periods will be generally indorsed. His plea that the best available men, no matter where they come from, should be selected in making appointments, will receive the approval of a large section. His statement that the more outside blood we bring in the better for the institution will probably not be generally accepted. However, it may be inferred that Dr. McPhedran himself would be fairly well satisfied if our own men who go abroad and do good work receive the appointments.

Nearly all the other speakers approved of the so-called British methods. An important feature of these methods which they approved of was the system of multiple or parallel services in medicine and surgery. They insisted that these services should be separate, distinct and independent, and the different services should work side by side. It appeared during the discussion that some supposed that the Toronto General Hospital in the past had been conducted according to quasi-British methods. It was pointed out, however, very distinctly by Drs. Davison, Primrose and others that the past and present conditions in the Toronto General Hospital were not in any sense to be compared with the conditions which existed in Scotland or in England. According to the plan carried out in Edinburgh each surgeon has charge of thirty or forty beds in one or two wards, and controls all those beds, having his own nurses and house