

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Hon. President, The Hon. Sir Frederick Borden, K.C.M.G., Minister of Militia; Hon. 1st Vice-President, Col. E. Fiset, D.S.O., G.G.H.S., Deputy Minister of Militia; Hon. 2nd Vice-President, Lt.-Col. G. E. Jones, G.G.H.S., Director Gen. of Medical Services; President, Lt.-Col. G. Sterling Ryerson, M.R.O., Toronto; Secretary and Treasurer, Lieut. T. H. Leggett, A.M.C., Ottawa; Assistant Secretary, Lieut. O'Hagan, P.A.M.C.;

In addition there were elected thirteen Vice-Presidents—one from each Military District.

## Retrospect of Current Literature.

### SURGERY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF DRS. ARMSTRONG, BARLOW, ARCHIBALD, AND CAMPBELL.

EDWIN BEER, M.D. "The Phloridzin Test." *Jour. A. M. A.*, June 13th, 1908.

The article deals with special reference to the influence exerted by a diseased kidney on the excretory work of the second organ, and is limited to a consideration of the value of the phloridzin test as advocated by Casper and Richter, and modified by Kapsammer. Heretofore, the teaching has been that the subcutaneous injection of ten to 20 minims of a 1 per cent. solution of phloridzin is normally followed within half an hour by the excretion of sufficient glucose to give the well known reaction. The non-excretion of glucose is, therefore, taken as an indication of disturbance in the functional activity of the organ, and means some pathological lesion. If this test gave a negative result in both urines, operation was contraindicated on the grounds of renal insufficiency. It is now well known that disease of one kidney may very materially influence the other organ, as is evidenced by an increase in the functional activity of the well organ. But the reverse may occur, when we may have an inhibition of the functional activity of the sound kidney. In illustration of this latter effect, the writer cites seven cases in which the phloridzin was negative. Operative procedure was undertaken when a positive phloridzin test was obtained in five cases, two being fatal. The series contained two cases of renal tuberculosis (unilateral); one case of double renal tuberculosis with a unilateral nephropexy in which a positive phloridzin reaction was obtained after nephropexy; one of ureteral calculus; one of pyonephrosis; one of hydro-nephrolithiasis with carcinoma when continued hæmorrhage caused death. In all these cases Nature's test was much more reliable than