

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

A REGULAR fortnightly meeting of the Halifax and Nova Scotia Branch, British Medical Association, was held on Dec. 6th, 1905, at the City Council Chamber, the President occupying the chair.

Dr. D. G. J. Campbell, on behalf of the Staff of the Halifax Visiting Dispensary, brought to the notice of the Branch the case of an infant suffering from gonorrhœal ophthalmia, which had been refused admission into the Victoria General Hospital, by virtue of the by-law excluding children under six years ago. It was resolved that a committee of eight be appointed to consider the whole question of hospital accommodation.

At the conclusion of the business, Dr. R. Evatt Mathers read a paper entitled "Acute Otitis Media and its Treatment" (To be published in a future number).

Dr. Kirkpatrick in discussing the paper, pointed out a few rules for the guidance of the general practitioner in the treatment of otitis or otalgia from any cause. An attempt should always be made to abort these attacks by rest in bed, catharsis, local depletion and hot applications, and an opiate if necessary, or two or three drops of a 5% solution of cocaine followed by adrenalin.

When the discharge appears, frequent cleansing with 1 in 8000 bichloride solution is indicated. Dr. Kirkpatrick condemned the use of cotton wool plugs in the external auditory canal. He considered instillation to be indicated

only after the febrile stage, and recommended a combination of boric acid and alcohol as one of the best.

Drs. Farrell, C. D. Murray and King also took part in the discussion which was concluded by Dr. Mathers.

Dr. Goodwin read some notes on "The Flavoring of Medicines." He first considered the various forms of syrups. In cases where there is objection to its action on the stomach or liver he recommended glycerin or honey as substitutes. Other excellent flavorings were the elixirs of the U. S. P., licorice and the various aquæ, especially chloroform water. Nearly all of the members present took part in the discussion of Dr. Goodwin's paper, after which the meeting adjourned.



On December 20th, 1905, the Branch met again at the City Council Chamber in regular fortnightly session, the Vice-President, Dr. James Ross, being in the chair. After routine business, Dr. D. A. Campbell read a paper on "Aortic Regurgitation," (to be published later.)

Dr. Stewart in discussing the paper, referred to aortic regurgitation as the most interesting of heart lesions. He thought that there were many undiscovered cases which were responsible for much ill health; and that strain was one of the chief causes, especially in young athletes undergoing hard training. Dr. Stewart clearly recalled how Balfour of Edinburgh had so strongly insisted upon the recumbent position