

Superintendent of the Ontario Mental Hospital, London, Ont.

Dr. D. C. Aikenhead, President of the Manitoba Division, entertained the executive committee and the visitors at dinner in the Fort Garry hotel on the evening of September 12. Two representatives of labour were present. Mayor Garnet Coulter and Hon. Ivan Schultz, Minister of Health and Public Welfare, welcomed those present.

A feature of the convention was the public meeting in Grace Church on September 13. Dr. Aikenhead presided and the speakers were Dr. McPhedran, whose subject was "The place of the medical man in a national health insurance scheme". He urged all Canadian citizens to co-operate with the medical profession so that together we may go hand in hand in fashioning something that will give us, as a free people and free practitioners, the best medical services in the world. Dr. Magner, speaking on cancer, said that the chances of healing cancer patients were good if the patients were treated while the growth was small and strictly localized. Early diagnosis and skilled treatment, he said, called for the services of highly trained specialists, and the removal of the economic barrier, which too often existed, was of urgent importance.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting on September 14 Dr. Stevenson outlined a series of mental health principles which should be preventives of mental disorder in the normal life of a normal person.

Dr. Albert Ross discussed "Acute diverticulitis of the sigmoid" at a meeting on the morning of the 14th.

At a luncheon meeting the following day, Dr. J. R. Davidson, Winnipeg, gave his views on the origin and treatment of cancer. He suggested that future research into the nature of cancer should start with the study of endocrine glands of cancer patients.

Lieut.-Col. C. H. A. Walton, Winnipeg, who has recently returned from four years' service overseas, spoke of medical experiences in England and elsewhere.

The business meeting showed the Division to be in a healthy state, with 384 paid-up members, which represents about 94% of the maximum total membership obtainable in the province. It was announced that Manitoba Medical Service, a voluntary health insurance scheme under the Manitoba Division, was expected to be in operation on October 1. Refresher courses for medical graduates who had been taken into war services immediately after graduation and had never engaged in civilian practice are being planned by the Medical Education Committee.

Officers were elected as follows: *President*—Dr. Stuart Schultz, Superintendent of Brandon Mental Hospital; *First Vice-president*—Dr. P. H. McNulty, Winnipeg; *Second Vice-president*

—Dr. J. R. Martin, Neepawa; *Honorary Secretary*—Dr. D. L. Scott; *Honorary Treasurer*—Dr. A. M. Goodwin; *Members-at-large of the Executive*—Dr. J. M. Mathieson, Brandon; Dr. Hugh L. Cameron, Winnipeg.

The annual golf tournament was held on the afternoon of September 15 at St. Charles Country Club.

ROSS MITCHELL

Correspondence

"Old Soldiers Never Die"

To the Editor:

Twenty-six years ago many of us were perhaps more alive than we are today but perhaps not so alive to our good fortune. In 1918, "zero hour" instead of "D" day meant much the same thing, but we were young and our luck was in, rations were ample and we thought our equipment was nearly adequate. We were young doctors on the great adventure, filled with new teaching and proud of our three stars which stuck with us for duration. The purchase of crowns was of concern to only a few fortunate ones of our acquaintance! No matter what our previous service, the period from Boves in August to Bonn for Xmas is an extra special memory. Movement, success for our armies and new country and new experiences after the long stalemate. The Canadian Corps and Canadian medical units had lived through the tough times and then were sure as they always had been that come what might they were masters in their own specialty of doing any job that offered.

Today another generation of Canadian doctors is part of a Canadian Army travelling the same road, doing the same job in an even faster moving warfare. Transportation has changed remarkably but a pair of good feet is still a blessing if current reports can be believed. Food is still a major subject for thought and discussion and all the vitamins in the standard ration still fail to dim the memory of the soldier when he thinks of the result of the get-together of a thick steak and a buttered skillet.

For Dakin's solution and bipp we now read sulfonamides and penicillin. Splints are new and treatment of wounds and disease has been bettered. Casualties are moved from the field to bases with a speed unheard of in the Great War. Statistics of recovery are better. Gratuities are to be bigger and rehabilitation is a new syndrome with headache as its most prominent symptom.

We who stayed at home this time have lost some sleep, a large part of our income by tax and undoubtedly some of our enthusiasm, but our luck is still in. Some of us are still alive to be proud that the traditional spirit of the R.C.A.M.C. is being carried by a fast-moving

generation of Canadian doctors in many old and new fields wherever the best fighting is being done by the best fighting men.

A. STANLEY KIRKLAND

Saint John, N.B.,
October 10, 1944.

University Notes

McGill

McGill University's course in tropical medicine, which was recently inaugurated, is unique in that it not only involves study at the university but also clinical work in the tropics.

Dr. F. Cyril James, principal and vice-chancellor, in describing the new course, stated: "For the first time in the history of medicine, a diploma in tropical medicine has been instituted which requires clinical training in tropical diseases on the spot. This combines laboratory work in temperate climates and clinical work in the tropics.

"The idea is an entirely new one anywhere in the world and the present achievement has been made possible through the co-operation of the Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd., with McGill University."

Three medical officers of the Canadian Navy, Surgeon-Lieutenants John W. Hackney, H. H. McKinnon and Robert H. Lennox, left the Dorval airport recently for British Guiana where for a few months they will take clinical and pathological training under tropical conditions. This is part of the postgraduate course in tropical medicine instituted at McGill.

PARASITOLOGY COURSE

The three surgeon-lieutenants had previously taken a course in parasitology under Dr. T. W. M. Cameron, director of the Institute of Parasitology at Macdonald College. Clinical lectures in parasitology were given by Major D. Bews, of the Canadian Army, who had gained much medical experience in Asia.

The three Canadian armed forces are showing a keen interest in this new department at McGill. In addition to the Navy, the Army and the Air Force have sent some of their doctors to start the course at Macdonald College, prior to further training under tropical conditions with doctors attached to the Demerara Bauxite Company, a subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of Canada.

"McGill University," Dr. James commented, "had been hoping to establish such clinical facilities as are now available, but mostly as a postwar project because of war-time difficulties in carrying it through at the present. We are indeed happy that through the assistance of the Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd., this

could be made possible now, at least for doctors of the Armed Forces who, we hope, will be followed by civilian doctors.

"This is a big step ahead in medicine. It must be remembered that despite the obvious importance of this clinical training it has not previously been a required part of any course leading to a diploma in tropical medicine. Moreover, at the present time, no university in the British Commonwealth or in the United States is known to be offering a course of precisely this kind."

Gifts, grants and bequests totalling more than \$70,000 have been acknowledged by McGill University following a meeting of the Board of Governors. Dr. James, in making known the list of gifts also announced a number of staff promotions and changes. These included the appointment of Dr. Alton Goldbloom, well-known child specialist, as chairman of the department of paediatrics, succeeding Dr. R. R. Struthers, who has accepted an appointment under the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

MORGAN HOUSE DONATED FOR ANATOMY RESEARCH

The Morgan House and grounds at 3619 University Street have been donated to McGill University by the Frank W. Horner Company, announced Dr. F. Cyril James. Dr. Hans Selye, associate professor of anatomy, will be in charge of the building.

The house will be transformed into research laboratories devoted to the promotion of graduate studies and research in the fields of hypertension, rheumatic fever and hormone products.

NOW FOR THE SEVENTH. As V-Day approaches, more and more money is needed. Our boys "over there" must be completely equipped and kept supplied with all the equipment required to finish the job. They must not only be backed to the limit but must also know that those on the home front are behind them 100%. It's an all-out drive for money to support an all-out drive for final victory. Invest in Victory—Buy Victory Bonds.

