

CUS417/105.116 '12

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The Clipping attached is from  
**THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.**  
British Medical Association, 429, Strand, W.C.

12 / 10 / 12

THE first meeting of the winter session of the University College Hospital Medical Society will be held in the new school buildings, on October 16th, at 8.30 p.m. Sir Thomas Barlow will be in the chair. Professor William Osler will deliver an address on the influence of the Medical Society in the education of the medical student. The Society will be glad to see students from other hospitals as well as old University College Hospital men.

#### ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

THE winter session at the medical school of St. Mary's Hospital opened on Wednesday, October 3rd, with a distribution of prizes, Professor Osler officiating. Addressing the students, he said that a good constitution was necessary for success in the medical profession. It had been said that success was largely a matter of the survival of the fittest, which in their work meant that it was largely a matter of good health. As a class medical men were notorious sinners in that respect—if they did not work too hard they smoked too much or were indifferent to the benefits of sufficient exercise. Medical students must study three subjects—science, art, and man. In regard to science it was hard to "get the right sort into the medical student." In order to give medical students a proper conception of science it was necessary to catch the student early enough, and after teaching him a reasonable amount of Latin and Greek to train him in preliminary scientific subjects, not forgetting French and German and a leavening of literature. If that plan were followed there would then be time enough for the student to spend in the out-patient department, in the wards, and in the laboratories. The great principle to be grasped was that unless a student acquired the scientific spirit he was unable to obtain any true perspective. By the word "scientific" Professor Osler said he did not mean the acquisition of mere facts, but an understanding of the methods of science, a realization of its aims, and an inoculation with its spirit. It was an attitude of mind that made a student burn with ardour till the solution of any difficulty had been accomplished. It might be said that such an idea was Utopian; but he maintained that it was not so, and that true scientific education must imbue a man in the manner he had described, and it must be inculcated into the student from the very start. One great difficulty was that students were sent to the medical schools without any preliminary scientific training. One year only was allotted for the acquirement of such training, and it was therefore small wonder that some students never reached a vantage ground from which a true perspective might be obtained. Another great difficulty was the examination system. If they had deliberately set themselves the task of devising a plan by which the all-precious spirit of scientific investigation could be quenched they could not have found anything so effective as the examination system, which made the meeting of examination tests the end of all study. As a concession to human weakness, he thought that an examination might now and then be allowed in

#### MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

THE BRITISH  
MEDICAL JOURNAL 999

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," Sir Almroth Wright, in a characteristic speech, lamented the necessity of speaking for others, as it was his wont to speak for himself alone. It appeared, he said, to be his lot in life to be the critic of his own profession, and, speaking of bacteriology, he indicated a belief that in that science lay all hope of great progress. In particular he ridiculed the crudeness of methods which faced disease armed with knives and drugs, and yet still expected to be called modern. At the same time, he acknowledged his indebtedness to the staff of the hospital for the way in which it had helped him in his researches, and had co-operated with the therapeutic department in the treatment of bacteria-born disease. In an amusing reply on behalf of the visitors, Professor Osler gave a forecast of the day when Sir Almroth Wright would find himself in the hands of the clinicians, and drew a picture of him suffering from an attack of gout and shrieking for the physician and his morphine, or standing in equally grave need of relief at the surgeon's hands. Adopting a more serious tone, he then expressed an opinion that the hospital and the school should from a financial standpoint be regarded as one and indivisible. The training of the younger generation of practitioners was a public service, and the suggestion as to the municipalization of the hospitals of London was one to be deprecated in the strongest terms. Finally, he expressed regret that so many London students passed examinations which were in all respects equal to those passed by provincial students but nevertheless did not thereby obtain the degree of M.D. The final toast of the evening was one to the Chairman, which was proposed by Dr. Sidney Phillips, senior physician to the hospital. In alluding to the many services which Mr. Harben had rendered to St. Mary's, he laid stress upon his success in fostering a spirit of good feeling and co-operation between the school and its parent institution, the hospital. Mr. Harben expressed his thanks in a short speech, and the formal proceedings then terminated. During the intervals between the speeches, the diners were enlivened by some clever sketches by Mr. Percy French.

been under consideration, and it had been decided that the Medical School shall continue to maintain, as hitherto, complete courses of instruction for the entire curriculum, including the preliminary scientific and intermediate medical subjects. In the evening the usual annual dinner of past and present students was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole. There was an excellent gathering, some 120 being present and the speeches were of a high order.



the course of the career of a student, but they should be strictly designed for the purpose of finding out a man's methods rather than his familiarity with the minutiae of medicine and surgery. He advised the students, so far as they were able, to dismiss all thoughts of examination from their minds. He counselled them not to take thought for the morrow, but rather to let the interest in the day's work absorb all their energies, for then the future with its examinations would look after itself, and their devotion to science and saturation with its spirit would give them a sane, cool reason which would enable them to sift the true from the false in life, and at the same time would keep them well in the van of progress. He advised them to consecrate themselves to the art of medicine, which he observed was much harder to acquire than the science of medicine. They must stop their ears against the wiles of that Celtic siren, Sir Almroth Wright, who would abolish Harley Street and all that it represented; there was, however, still much virtue left in that long, unlovely street. Moreover, the art of medicine could not be replaced by, but must absorb, the new science. The art of managing patients and curing diseases was difficult to teach students, and it was a question for discussion whether the ordinary set lecture was of much use. He urged that more attention should be given to the hygienic and dietetic treatment of patients. Students were allowed to pick up information concerning those points in a haphazard fashion. He considered that a junior member of the staff should give systematic teaching on these subjects to the students. A serious defect in the training was that nurses were allowed to do a great many things that the medical students should do. There was no question that the nurses did it well, but the nurses did it all. He wished a hospital could be started where the nurses would be medical students. In conclusion, Professor Osler said that a student might possess scientific knowledge and excel in the art of medicine and yet might dangle his heels in idleness if he had not studied his fellow-man and fellow-woman. Their success and happiness in life depended on that, and also on the attitude of mind they assumed towards their fellow-creatures. He advised them not to be too sensitive, nor too ready to resent the minor irritations of life. In the Dean's report, which was read, it was stated that the attitude of the St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in relation to the proposed concentration of the teaching of the preliminary and intermediate medical subjects at a University Institute at South Kensington had again been under consideration, and it had been decided that the Medical School shall continue to maintain, as hitherto, complete courses of instruction for the entire curriculum, including the preliminary scientific and intermediate medical subjects. In the evening the usual annual dinner of past and present students was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole. There was an excellent gathering, some 120 being present, and the assemblage having for chairman Mr. H. A. Harben, the Chairman of the Hospital Board. The latter, after the usual loyal toasts, gave the toast of the evening, "St. Mary's Hospital Medical School," and in the course of his speech made reference in sympathetic terms to the great loss St. Mary's had sustained by the death of Sir William Broadbent. His connexion with the school was a long one, and during its continuance he did much to promote its interests. Mr. Harben also mentioned with regret the resignation of his office as Dean by Dr. H. A. Caley, a medical man who, besides the work he had performed for St. Mary's Hospital, had done much for the medical education of all London. Finally he made allusion to the lustre shed on the medical school by the brilliant work of Sir Almroth Wright and his colleagues in connexion with the therapeutic inoculation department which had been established. The task of replying for the School was undertaken by Mr. W. H. Clayton Green, the new Dean, who took a hopeful view of what the future had in store for it. He made reference to the many and great services which Mr. Harben, as Chairman of the Hospital Board, had rendered, paid a graceful compliment to his predecessor in the office of Dean, and recounted the changes which had taken place in the *personnel* of the hospital and the school. He also alluded to the arrangements made with the Middlesex Hospital for a joint sports and recreation ground, which he thought would do much to favour athletics at St. Mary's.

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