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Abstract

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GOINGS-ON DURING THE 222ND SESSION

By NIGEL MALCOLM-SMITH

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In November the Presidents' Annual Dinner was held in the Hall of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. We were pleased to have as our Guest of Honour Mr Thomas McW. Millar, a well-known and well-liked personality throughout the Edinburgh medical school. As usual, undergraduate members went back to Melbourne Place afterwards where the party was continued well into the night. We look forward to next year's Dinner when we will be pleased to have Sir Stanley Davidson with us as Guest of Honour.

Later that month about thirty members of the Society went through to Glasgow as guests of the Glasgow Medical-Chirurgical Society to take part in the debate "That we regret that the student of today is the doctor of tomorrow." We were ably represented by Mr John McNaughton who led the opposition, and Mr John Turnbull who, in his inimitable manner, seconded the motion. The standard of debate was surprisingly high, a good selection of speakers coming from both societies. We should like to take this opportunity to thank the Glasgow Medical-Chirurgical Society and hope that they will be able to join us in debate in Edinburgh during next session.

Perhaps our most refreshing activity this year was the visit in December to Messrs William Younger & Co.'s Holyrood Brewery. We were given a lengthy tour of the establishment by the Company's official guide and were shown all aspects of the manufacture of William Younger's beer from the raw materials to the finished product. At the end we were very kindly invited to come and sample some of the finished product, which the Society seemed to be both very willing and capable of doing.

Another industrial visit in a more serious vein was that made to the Ministry of Pensions Industrial Rehabilitation Centre at Granton. Here we were shown some of the work which goes into getting a person back to full employment after a period of physical or mental illness. The meeting finished with a short film outlining other aspects of such work being done in Rehabilitation units throughout the country.

The third visit of the session was to the Wilkie Research Unit for Experimental Surgery, a visit which was to have taken place in the previous session but which had to be postponed. Dr Delorme, the assistant director of the unit, showed us around and detailed some of the work which was going on, especially with regard to the bone marrow studies on animals.

One evening during the session was devoted to a showing of medical films, the titles being "The Therapeutic use of A.C.T.H." "Acidity," "Dyspepsia and Peptic Ulcer," and "The G.P. and Rheumatic Diseases." The projector and films were lent by J. Wyeth & Co.

The final social event of the session was held in the Carlton Hotel on 16th April when we attended the dinner dance, which has now become an annual feature in the Society's calendar. We have to congratulate Mr John McKendrick on the successful organisation of this function.

From this brief account former members will realise that the R.M.S. is still alive with activity of a social as well as a medical nature. We ourselves hope to maintain this spirit during the 223rd session.