

Dreschfeld, M.D.; Seymour John Sharkey, M.D. *Midwifery and Diseases peculiar to Women*: John Baptiste Potter, M.D.; James Watt Black, M.D.; Peter Horrocks, M.D.; Walter Spencer Anderson Griffith, M.D.; William Radford Dakin, M.D. *Surgical Anatomy and Principles and Practice of Surgery*: John Langton, F.R.C.S.; John Neville Colley Davies-Colley, F.R.C.S. *Public Health*: Part. I, Thomas Stevenson, M.D.; Part II, William Pasteur, M.D.

The usual quarterly and annual reports were received and adopted.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

An ordinary Council was held at the College on August 4th. Sir WILLIAM MAC CORMAC occupied the chair.

The minutes of the last quarterly Council were read and confirmed. On the recommendation of the Committee for General Purposes it was resolved to have the Lecture Theatre of the College reconstructed so as to improve its ventilation and sitting accommodation.

#### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following report from the Finance Committee was approved and adopted:

*Income*.—The gross income of the College for the past year is £365 in excess of that in the previous year. As regards the receipts from the Membership examinations under the Combined Examining Board, there is a decrease of £527 on the first examination, and of £252 on the second examination, and an increase of £792 on the third examination, and of £136 on the diploma fees paid by university candidates, making altogether a nett increase of £149. The decrease on the second examination is the natural outcome of the decrease on the first examination in the previous year, while the continued decrease on the first examination is probably in part due to the elimination from that examination of the subject of elementary anatomy, against which, however, must be set off the decrease in the expenditure due to the same cause. The increase on the third examination is to some extent to be accounted for by the new rule, under which the majority of rejected candidates are now referred to their studies for three months only instead of six, the effect of this alteration having been to bring forward within the year the examination of a considerable number of candidates who, under the old rule, would not have come up for examination until the next year. The amount received in fees for the Fellowship examinations is higher than on any previous occasion, and the total of the Dental examination fees has only once been exceeded. The other divisions of the income show little variation, and do not call for special comment.

*Expenditure*.—The expenditure of the College for the past year exceeds the expenditure of the previous year by £95. The examiners' fees under the Combined Examining Board are £100 less than in the previous year, and the expenses of the examination hall have been reduced by £119. The expenditure on the Fellowship examinations is £148 more, owing to the increased number of candidates, and the Dental examination expenses remain about the same. There is also little alteration in the expenditure on the laboratories. As regards the expenses of the College in Lincoln's Inn Fields, the only instances in which a marked difference is to be noted, are in the cases of "repairs, painting, and cleaning," "rates, taxes, and insurance," and "extraordinary expenditure." The expenditure on repairs and painting has not been heavy, and is £332 less than in the previous year. Under rates, taxes, and insurance there is an increase of £237; but under this head is included a sum of £405, being insurance paid in advance for a period of seven years, and of this sum only one year's premium, namely £67 10s., is strictly attributable to the expenditure of the year 1895-96. The extraordinary expenditure, amounting to nearly £600, has been exceptionally heavy.

The balance on the income and expenditure account amounts to £1,481. This is a result far more favourable than was anticipated at the beginning of the year, and one which must be regarded with some satisfaction. It is only through the exceptional circumstances of the inclusion in the year's accounts of payments for insurance, which, strictly, ought not to be debited to it, and the expansion of the extraordinary expenditure by at least £200 beyond the normal amount, that the profit realised has failed to reach the sum of £2,000, which this Committee have on more than one occasion urged ought to be kept in view as the standard excess of income over expenditure.

As the difference between the gross receipts and nett income of the College is probably not always duly appreciated, and as exaggerated statements are not infrequently made about the extent to which the College is dependent upon the Membership examination for its maintenance, the following statement, showing the nett income of the College for the past year, and the expenditure which it has been necessary to meet therewith, is appended, namely:

<i>Income.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Profit on Membership examinations ...	5,706 11 9	Expenses of College in Lincoln's Inn Fields ...	10,304 16 1
Profit on Public Health examinations ...	72 15 0	Half Expenses of Laboratories ...	830 8 7
Profit on Fellowship examinations ...	159 16 1	Disbursement of trust funds ...	255 16 0
Profit on Dental examinations ...	281 1 10	Balance ...	1,481 6 9
Receipts, house property, and investments ...	6,340 13 8		
Incidental receipts ...	32 2 5		
Receipts from trust funds ...	278 6 8		
	12,872 7 5		12,872 7 5

It was resolved:

That the statements of receipts and expenditure of the College or the past year be published in the College *Calendar*.

#### DIRECT REPRESENTATION.

It was announced that the circular on direct representation will be issued to the Fellows of the College on October 1st.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

The annual meeting of Fellows and Members will be held at the College on Thursday, November 19th, at 3 P.M.

*PRESENTATION*.—Dr. Cecil A. P. Osburne, on the occasion of his leaving Hythe, Kent, to take over charge of the Catton Grove Asylum, near Norwich, was presented with a handsome silver salver by the inhabitants of Hythe as a mark of their esteem and appreciation. A public dinner was also given to Dr. Osburne at the Seabrook Hotel, which was attended by most of the leading residents.

DR. WILLIAM GLAHOLOM BLACK, one of the leading practitioners in Newcastle-on-Tyne, died on Saturday night, August 1st, under distressing circumstances. On July 27th Dr. Black called at the police office and said a patient had died from puerperal fever because of improper treatment by a neighbour before his arrival. The police arrested the person on a charge of having caused the woman's death, but, discovering that the woman was not dead, they reduced the charge to one of having caused grievous bodily harm. On the following day, at the police court, it was stated that Dr. Black was not able to appear, and defendant was remanded on bail. On Saturday, when the person whom he had accused was again placed in the dock, the prosecuting solicitor said Dr. Black was too ill to appear, and the charge was unreservedly withdrawn. Later in the day it became known that Dr. Black had developed an acute condition of frenzy, and was with difficulty restrained until his strength was exhausted. He gradually sank and died in the evening. It is said that Dr. Black had for some time been overworked, and that this induced brain trouble, from which he died, and to which is attributed his action in the case mentioned.

*THE DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON*.—Sir James Crichton Browne recently distributed the prizes and certificates for the session 1895-96 to the students of this hospital. There was a large company, including many of the most eminent members of the dental profession in London, and a pleasantly informal tone was given to the proceedings by combining the more serious business of the evening with a *conversazione* and a concert. The proceedings commenced with the reading of the annual report by the Dean, Mr. Morton Smale, who stated that during the past year there had been a greater number of students at the school and of successes at the Royal College of Surgeons than ever before, and, what was more important, the number of successful operations performed by students at the school was also in excess of all previous years. He referred to the appeal now being made for contributions towards rebuilding the hospital, and claimed that the record of its work justified increased support. Mr. Smale paid a graceful tribute to the memories of Sir John Tomes and Mr. Gregson, and to the services rendered by the retiring anaesthetist, Mr. Bailey, whose place had been filled by the advancement of Mr. Henry Davis. After the distribution of the prizes Sir James Crichton Browne referred to the dental profession as one that was at the same time extremely ancient and most rapidly progressive. Its status and standard had of late much advanced. He appealed to the students to raise dentistry to the level of the medical profession, of which it was really a branch. He paid a high tribute to the skill and especially the probity of English dentists, and said that, in his opinion, if England wished to hold her place among the nations she must look to her teeth. Preventive dentistry was the science of the future, and the care of their children's teeth the highest duty of parents. The speaker then made an eloquent appeal for funds to enable the Dental Hospital of London to carry on its noble work under adequate conditions. A vote of thanks to Sir James Crichton Browne was proposed by Mr. Storer Bennett, seconded by Mr. Smith Turner, and carried by acclamation. A most enjoyable entertainment followed under the direction of Mr. Herbert Schartair, who himself contributed very largely to its success.