

**COMBINED MEETING OF THE CANADIAN UROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
AND THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF UROLOGICAL SURGEONS  
13th, 14th, and 15th May 1957**

THE suggestion of a combined meeting of the two associations was made by our Canadian colleagues more than two years ago; that it was brought to fruition this year was due not only to their efforts but also to their generous hospitality in providing accommodation for the British members and their wives. This enabled thirty members to attend the meeting, of whom twelve were accompanied by their wives. The date was arranged to follow that of the American Urological Association Annual Meeting so that some members attended both; the place chosen was Montreal, and for this we are grateful to the President of the Canadian Urological Association, Dr J. M. Campbell, who relinquished his right to hold it in his own city of Saskatoon in order to reduce the mileage we should have to cover. The city of Montreal, with its two million inhabitants, is the largest in Canada, and is the largest inland ocean port in the world. It is rich in history and contains many fine buildings, and is of especial interest now in view of the development of the St Lawrence Seaway.

Most of our party arrived on Sunday, 12th May, and we were comfortably housed at the Queen's Hotel. On that afternoon we had a bus tour round the city; throughout the meeting private buses were available, and we are grateful to our hosts for this service. The city is built on an island and centres around Mount Royal, on whose summit is a large cross, illuminated at night. About 65 per cent. of the populace are French Canadians, and most of them speak both English and French. About 85 per cent. are Roman Catholics and there are many fine churches; we visited the church of Notre Dame, which was originally built entirely of wood and is of great beauty.

A "get together" cocktail party in the evening enabled us to meet more of our hosts.

Scientific meetings began on Monday, 13th May, at 8 A.M. and were held in Montreal General Hospital, which has a fine amphitheatre with modern equipment including facilities for television projection from the operating rooms. The full programme is printed with this article; suffice it to say here that all the papers were of great interest and well presented: many of them are included in this issue.

Dr Campbell took the chair at the first meeting and later invited the British President, Mr R. H. O. B. Robinson, to preside at some sessions. The limit of fifteen minutes placed on each paper, although not strictly enforced, proved effective in maintaining interest and stimulating discussion, and everyone had an ample opportunity of expressing his views. The number present, 107 members, was not too large, and it was not necessary to use a microphone. Whereas at the A.U.A. meeting in Pittsburg there had been little time for any spontaneous discussion from the floor, we found the Canadians ready to follow our own custom, and by the end of the meeting the discussions became more and more animated.

At the end of the first morning we were driven to St Helen's Island to be received by the representative of the Mayor and City Council of Montreal and entertained to luncheon. The ever-present buses then took us for a tour of the St Lawrence Seaway. The day was warm and sunny and we had a wonderful opportunity to learn about this tremendous project which will enable large ocean-going ships to sail through the great lakes to Detroit and Chicago. It involves making a new canal to avoid the rapids and we saw the progress of construction of two of the huge locks; in all there will be seven locks, but they are replacing twenty-one in the present canal. The Victoria Bridge is being raised from 40 to 120 feet to allow big ships to pass. Almost as a side issue the project will also provide a vast supply of hydro-electric power. Although started only two years ago, it is expected to be complete in another two; this is an index of the energy and capacity of our Canadian kinsmen and a justifiable cause for their pride in the undertaking.

Our return to the hotel was marked by another reception.

The meeting on Tuesday, 14th May, started at 8.30 A.M. with a remarkable film on "Stress," by Professor Hans Selye. The remainder of the morning was devoted to papers on carcinoma of the bladder contributed by both British and Canadian members, with an excellent account of the choice of surgical procedures by Dr Victor Marshall, who came as a guest speaker from New York. We were pleased to find his views so much in accord with our own. After a generous lunch in Livingstone Hall, the Nurses' Residence, we resumed work in the afternoon with a series of short papers and their discussion.

In the evening the Canadian Association President, Dr Campbell, gave a reception, which was followed by the Annual Dinner. Mr Clifford Morson spoke on behalf of the International Society of Urology, and Mr R. H. O. B. Robinson for B.A.U.S. After thanking the Canadians for their hospitality he presented a Gavel and Sounding Board made from timber salvaged after the bombing of the Royal College of Surgeons, and suitably inscribed. The Hon. Lionel Chevrier then gave an account in French and in English of the aims and progress of the Seaway and the benefits which would accrue from it.

The morning of Wednesday, 15th May, was occupied by short papers on a variety of subjects, after which we were taken to an excellent lunch at the Royal Victoria Hospital. Following an inspection of the Department of Urology there was a tea reception given by the Principal and Dean of McGill University and a visit to the Osler Library where various books of urological interest had been put out.

On this day it really rained for the first time, and on the short walk from the hospital to the University several members were caught in a heavy shower and had to take shelter in a local water-works!

The evening was devoted to private entertainment.

During the meeting we had an opportunity of inspecting the Urological Departments at the General and the Royal Victoria Hospitals. Each is new and equipped in a way to arouse our envy. The general layout includes four cystoscopic rooms each with its own X-ray apparatus and Hugh Young table with ample dressing rooms and facilities for pathology and teaching. The wards are arranged in four, two, or single bed units, each with its own bathroom. There is a speaking apparatus which enables the patient to talk to a nurse at the central station, and vice versa. The theatres open off air-conditioned corridors; large recovery rooms equipped with oxygen and suction to each bed-point are used to house patients immediately after operation. These are staffed by fully trained nurses and are adjacent to the operating rooms. Sterilisation of instruments and dressings in general is done from a central supply depot. The urological department is autonomous in the taking and interpretation of its X-rays, and in some cases is responsible for all the excretion pyelograms of the hospital. Although we did not see any operating we were impressed by the general air of efficiency in the hospital, although somewhat appalled at the high charge—21 dollars a day for a private room plus fees; almost all patients, however, subscribe to the Blue Cross Insurance Scheme.

This first combined meeting has been a great success from both the scientific and the social point of view. It has enabled us to get to know each other and to recognise our common problems. It has formed new friendships and cemented old ones and has proved another example of the good companionship which exists amongst urologists everywhere. The Canadian hospitality has been on an overwhelmingly generous scale and we are truly grateful to them. We hope to have the opportunity of returning it in some measure at a future date. In 1959, when there will be a British and Canadian Medical Association meeting in Edinburgh, it may be possible to hold the B.A.U.S. meeting in the same country and at a convenient time. In the meantime we can only repeat our thanks to our hosts; we enjoyed their company, their scientific contributions, their hospitality, and their sense of humour. The Canadian ladies were charming and our wives are grateful to them for their lavish entertainment.

E. W. R.



Group photograph of the combined meeting of the Canadian Urological Association and the British Association of Urological Surgeons at Montreal, May 1957.

#### PROGRAMME

**Monday, 13th May 1957: Amphitheatre, Montreal General Hospital.**—8 to 8.15 A.M., "Experimental Studies with Radioactive Colloidal Gold in the Prostate," William K. Kerr, Toronto. 8.15 to 8.30 A.M., "The Implantation of Radioactive Material into the Pituitary for Advanced Malignant Disease of the Prostate" (coloured film), J. D. Fergusson, London, England. 8.30 to 8.45 A.M., "Radical Retropubic Prostatectomy: Indications and Results," C. L. Gosse, Halifax, N.S. 8.45 to 9 A.M., Discussion. 9 to 9.45 A.M., Coffee, in Livingstone Hall, Nurses' Residence. 10 to 10.20 A.M., "Hormonal Factors in Urolithiasis and Nephrocalcinosis," Professor Hans Selye (by invitation), Montreal. 10.20 to 10.35 A.M., "A Study of Recurrent Renal Calculi," John Balfour, Vancouver, and H. MacIntosh (by invitation), Vancouver. 10.35 to 11 A.M., "Familial Renal Tubular Acidosis Associated with Renal Calcification," C. Schneiderman, Montreal, and D. L. Wilansky (by invitation), Montreal. 11 to 11.15 A.M., "Effects of Renal Tubular Acidosis on Calcium Excretion," S. A. MacDonald, Montreal, and Wm. Bauld (by invitation), Montreal. 11.15 to 11.30 A.M., Discussion. 11.45 A.M., Leave Montreal General Hospital by bus for St Helen's Island. Bus will call for ladies at Queen's Hotel at 11.30 A.M. 12.30 P.M., Reception of delegates and wives by His Worship the Mayor and City Council of Montreal. 1 P.M., Luncheon. 2.30 P.M., St Lawrence Seaway Tour for delegates and wives. 6.30 to 8.30 P.M., Reception, Queen's Hotel.

**Tuesday, 14th May 1957.**—8.30 to 9 A.M., "Stress and the Adaptation Syndrome," Professor Hans Selye (by invitation), Montreal (coloured film). 9 to 9.15 A.M., "The Grading and Staging of Tumours," R. C. B. Pugh, London, England. 9.15 to 9.30 A.M., "Endoscopic Therapy of Bladder Tumours," N. E. Berry, Kingston. 9.30 to 9.45 A.M., "The Choice of Surgical Procedures in Treating Bladder Cancer," V. F. Marshall (by invitation), New York. 9.45 to 10 A.M., "The Place of Total Cystectomy," E. W. Riches, London, England. 10 to 10.15 A.M., "Principles of Radiation Therapy of Bladder Tumours," M. N. Lougheed (by invitation), Montreal. 10.15 to 10.30 A.M., "The Linear Accelerator," J. Swinney, Newcastle. 10.30 to 10.45 A.M., "Irradiated Tantalum," H. G. Hanley, London, England. 10.45 to 11 A.M., "Surgery and Irradiation," D. S. Poole-Wilson, Manchester. 11 to 11.30 A.M., Coffee in the Amphitheatre. 11.30 A.M. to 1 P.M., Discussion. 1 to 2.30 P.M., Lunch, in Livingstone Hall, Nurses' Residence. 2.30 to 2.45 P.M., "The Value of Testicular Biopsy," W. S. Mack, Glasgow. 2.45 to 3.15 P.M., "The Sex Chromatin as a Diagnostic Aid in Congenital Errors of Sex Development," Professor Murray Barr (by invitation), London, Ont. 3.15 to 3.30 P.M., "Anatomical Efficiency of Transurethral Resection of the Prostate," N. Gibbon, Liverpool. 3.30 to 3.45 P.M., "Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Genito-urinary Tuberculosis," Professor Einar Ljunggren, Gothenburg, Sweden. 3.45 to 4.15 P.M., Discussion. 4.15 to 5 P.M., Annual Business Meeting, Canadian Urological Association. 7 to 7.30 P.M., President's Reception, Queen's Hotel. 8 P.M., Annual Dinner, Queen's Hotel. Guest speaker, Hon. Lionel Chevrier.