

prepared the clamps for the resection. He kept on though he knew now he would not finish; he was dizzy, his eyesight was blurred and his thoughts drifted away from his hands. He knew the area well enough to do it by touch—hadn't he done it that way before?

He dropped the scissors and instinctively reached in after it. He smiled as he felt the warm fluid running over his hands because all his sickness and pain were gone. He found his scissors, located the clamps with his left hand and completed the operation. Even as he lost consciousness, he knew that he performed an operation, which though not completed by sutures, had never been performed before.

To find Dr. Allen in O.R. 1 at 6.30 a.m. was not an unusual sight for the early scrubs, but to find him semi-recumbent on the table with his intestines spilling out of his abdomen, into which he had thrust both his hands, was indeed something else. He had performed a partial gastrectomy on himself. Dr. Allen was truly the surgeon's surgeon.

Camsi a la Mode

Five nights, and five days the champagne flowed as if it were water.

The moonbeams transformed Montmerency Falls into a glistening column of silver, danced across the rapids below, and skipped eastward on the rippling St. Lawrence River.

Gay, and at times, raucous, laughter rang out in the crisp night air about the Maison Montmerency on the outskirts of Quebec City.

This was CAMSI a la Mode—CAMSI according to the fashion of Laval University. This was the 25th, Annual CAMSI Congress, held early in November by the hosts who proved to be très, très agreeable.

But wait!

Don't form the impression that all was idyllic, that all was fun and games. This was a very serious occasion. This meeting marked the one time in twelve months that the persons who assume the responsibility for conducting the affairs of your National Organization would have the opportunity to assemble, to ratify action taken since the previous meeting, and to plan the steps to be taken in the following twelve months to ensure pursuit of, and to realize the aims and goals of Medical Students and Internes across Canada in an orderly fashion, without any unnecessary delay or difficulty.

Actually, the agenda was gruelling.

From the opening reception and dinner on that Sunday evening when we arrived, until adjournment of the final executive meeting at five a.m. on the following Friday, there was barely enough spare time to collect one's thoughts.

The Chairman's gavel fell each morning at nine to open the day's proceedings. It usually fell each evening after five, in time for the delegates to freshen up and travel to the reception for the particular evening. On the final evening, Thursday, we all returned from a most impressive banquet presented by the Provincial Minister of Health, to attend the final business meeting, which continued until one in the morning.

What was discussed? What was decided? Space would not permit even a summary of the minutes of the assembly. There were many reports adopted on behalf of all the regular standing officers of the association. In addition to the Local CAMSI Officers from each Medical school in Canada, the National Director of Camsi Insurance,

the Interne Placement Service Officer, the Student Exchange Program Officer, the Instrument Sales Officer, and the outgoing Executive Officers were among those reporting.

Lengthy discussions centered around the subjects of improving the CAMSI Insurance Plan, of both Undergraduate and Graduate aid to Developing Countries, and the CAMSI Foundation. The latter is a structure now in formation which is intended to facilitate the financial assistance of Canadian medical students. It was announced that the very lengthy procedure of obtaining a Dominion Government Charter was completed, and the Foundation is in a position to become a reality.

It was further decided that the Association should present a brief to the Royal Commission on Health Services, in order to represent problems unique to the Students and Internes, and any influence a Health Plan might have on such situations.

It is impossible to relay to you, the members of CAMSI, the enormous efforts which many persons make on your behalf in the Association.

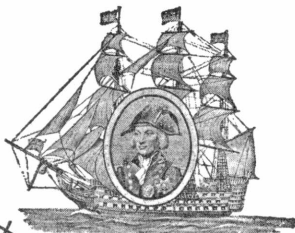
One may say with confidence that the Laval group have done a marvellous job in staging the 25th Annual Assembly. Further, it is safe to state, that it will take a good deal of effort on behalf of the Dalhousie students to maintain the standard when we host the 26th Assembly during Thanksgiving week-end this coming autumn, 1962. Without doubt the new Executive, centered here at Dalhousie, will be calling on many of you to assist in the preparations of a conference in the Maritime mode.

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