

New Professors



DR. MARY MacHUGH



DR. HUGH DAVSON

THE *Dalhousie Medical Journal* on behalf of the student body takes its first opportunity of welcoming to the University two new members of the faculty—Drs. Mary MacHugh and Hugh Davson.

In order to make the welcome more hearty and the introduction less formal, we publish herewith a few salient facts concerning their respective professional backgrounds.

Dr. Mary MacHugh—Assistant Professor of Pathology is a Londoner, born and bred. The daughter of an Irishman living in London, Dr. MacHugh spent her first three years at University College, in London. She completed her medical work at the King's College Hospital.

After "qualifying", as they say in England, with an M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. (Eng.) Dr. MacHugh stayed on at King's College Hospital, first as Casualty Officer and then as House Anaesthetist. Before leaving King's, she had also held the position of Clinical Assistant in Pathology and Neurology.

After this came two years of cancer research at Bristol, England, under the famous Dr. Todd. Part of the work here was carried on in the form of clinics on inoperable cases of cancer or returned cases. Different forms of treatment were tried with varying effects. Among these were Lead Therapy, Radio-active substances and Selenium. Dr. MacHugh gives her opinion of this work by stating that it advanced the knowledge of cancer treatment by opening new roads for research and at the same time, eliminating certain methods of therapy. At this clinic, snake venom was used for the prevention of pain in inoperable cases of cancer. The results were quite satisfactory.

Dr. MacHugh's favorite hobby is horseback riding and she has found the Halifax district sadly deficient in her attempts to pursue this sport.

Other hobbies are skating, skiing and fishing, which are far more satisfactory in this country.

Dr. MacHugh has not as yet joined any societies in Canada. She is an active member of the Clinical Pathological Society in England.

Canada impressed Dr. MacHugh with its beauty. She spoke especially of her trip down the majestic St. Lawrence River this summer and the natural, unspoiled charm of the Maritime Provinces, which she observed as she passed through on her way to Halifax. She added that the little she had seen of Canada had made her anxious to see more. The hospitality of the people was also a pleasant surprise to Dr. MacHugh; but not to those of us who have had the pleasure of meeting her and becoming acquainted with her charming personality and sense of humor.

Dr. Hugh Davson — Assistant Professor of Physiology, is also a Londoner. Dr. Davson studied at London University where he received his B.Sc., in Chemistry and Physiology; and later his M.Sc., in Biochemistry. He has also completed his work for a D.Sc., but due to a delay caused by the war has not yet been awarded the degree. The D.Sc., being the highest degree conferred in his branch of work, Dr. Davson is to be congratulated in fulfilling the requirements.

Dr. Davson has had considerable experience and background in research work. He has held the Beit Memorial Fellowship for Medical Research, which is the highest and most coveted research fellowship in England. He also spent one year at Pennsylvania University as a Rockefeller fellow. In the summer of 1938, he was invited out from England to do research work at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y. He also spent this past summer working in New York. Recently his research efforts have been concentrated upon the physiology of the eye and the permeability of membranes. He has published no less than twenty papers in a variety of journals.

Dr. Davson, too, is in Canada for the first time. He considers it to be more like England than the United States. He was also impressed with the liberal statements of Dr. Stanley in his address to the student body. He remarked that this was sharply in contrast to his experiences in the United States, where liberal opinion seemed to be frowned upon not only from among the student body, but also from among the faculty.

Taverns, where a few friends could gather for a quiet and sociable evening, is one of the few things which Dr. Davson misses. In his opinion this sort of thing breeds vice, since the younger element has no place to go and may turn to stronger liquor, and subsequently to crime. He finds the Nova Scotia liquor laws bewildering as a whole.

The hobbies of Dr. Davson consist of Shakespeare and Gibbons' "Decline and Fall." He considers that these will keep him busy for the rest of his life.

Dr. Davson belongs to the English Biochemical Society and the Society of Experimental Biology.

E. D.