Dr. Dowd said he had once taken the opportunity to discuss this subject with the late Dr. Fowler of Brooklyn, who was then surgeon-general of the State. He advanced the idea that one rational aid in the solution of the problem would be to have some kind of hospital service connected with service in the militia. Many States and counties contributed towards the maintenance of certain hospitals, and as they also bore the expense of the militia, it would be perfectly rational that the men who served as surgeons in the latter should also serve in the hospitals, and it should be understood that service in these particular hospitals carried with it certain military obligations. The militia surgeons would thus obtain a considerable amount of surgical experience in the course of their ordinary routine work and the positions would be more attractive.

Stated Meeting, March 10, 1909.

The President, Dr. JOSEPH A. BLAKE, in the Chair.

LIGATION OF EXTERNAL CAROTID AS A PRELIMINARY TO EXCISION OF CARCINOMA OF TONGUE.

Dr. FRANK S. MATHEWS presented a man, fifty-five years old, who was operated on about a year ago for a carcinoma of the tongue. At the time of the operation there was an extensive growth involving the right side of the tongue and extending down towards the floor of the mouth. The complete removal of the involved tissue and submaxillary glands on both sides necessitated quite an extensive dissection, the operation occupying an hour and a half. The preliminary ligation of the external carotid rendered the operation within the mouth bloodless, and greatly facilitated the work within the mouth.

Dr. Mathews said he had resorted to preliminary ligation of the external carotid in three cases similar to this one; in two of these the operation within the mouth was practically bloodless. In the third case, that of an old man, there was considerable hemorrhage which was checked with difficulty by packing. He showed the case to emphasize the ease and speed with which