

Dominion Medical Monthly

And Ontario Medical Journal

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COMMENT FROM MONTH TO MONTH

"Whither are we Drifting?" is a question which the medical profession may well put to itself at the close of the year 1912. That it has been a year of more than ordinary unrest few will deny.

In Canada there has been no clamorous uproar; but in the British Isles there has been a sullen and obstinate indignation over the National Insurance Act. Indeed, it does not take one to be gifted with second sight to accurately define the position into which the medical profession is rapidly advancing in the motherland. Nationalization of the profession there does not appear far off to the discriminating eye. The prospect is disturbing and the anxiety distressing.

In the United States the wail is over vanishing incomes. Graft has invaded the ethically sacred portals and the division-of-fee-system portends distressful times. The country is seething in quackery, and the dispassionate observer views the narrowing field of the regular practitioner with a disconsolate heart. The pursuit of gain is prosecuted with a dogged pertinacity, and the spirit of the age is mercenary to the highest degree. The land is over-run with charlatans. It is no fanciful dream to say they