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## Original Articles

### THE MEDICAL COMMISSION\*

#### ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY.

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Your Lordship, I have been asked to present this morning the subject of orthopedic surgery, largely because it is the department of scientific medicine which takes care of a large percentage of the cases which the so-called irregular practitioners or practitioners of other systems, such as mechano-therapy, osteopathy, and so on, have come under their observation from time to time.

It aims at so qualifying men that they may be able to take advantage of mechanical methods of treatment, such as massage, hydro-therapy, etc., when it is of advantage to the patient, and at the same time to withhold mechanical treatment when it may be of no value, or even harmful.

With regard to the subject of state control in the various special departments of medicine or surgery, as was spoken of by the last speaker, it is my opinion, your Lordship, that this can be better controlled by the medical profession itself than by any legislation. In the case of orthopedic surgery, for instance, it is absolutely essential that a man have not only the regulation five years' training in college, but that subsequently he should spend several years further in special clinics where this work is done on a large scale in order that he may prepare himself for such speciality.

\* This series of articles represents the views of different members of the profession, as laid before His Lordship, Mr. Justice Hodgins, K.C., Medical Commissioner, in the investigation that has been under way for the past two months or more, and we feel gratified to be in a position to give our readers throughout the Dominion the benefit of such interesting material.

