

suffered a loss of several hundred pounds, by their failure to pay the fees for succeeding years, during which they received the *Journal*. The better way, we think, would be to apply the strict rule, and at the end of the year, after due notice, remove the names of all who are in arrears. If those who refuse the draft are not removed from membership, no good will result. If all are removed, the good will suffer with the bad; for a member may object to pay a draft which he did not authorize, on the ground of principle and not from mere contumaciousness.

We are obliged to confess that, at the Toronto meeting, we did not discover any great clamour for this innovation, nor does a careful search in the proceedings as published to this date disclose any particulars as to the source of these "strong representations." It would have strengthened the position of the general secretary, if he had indicated where an account of this propaganda might be found.

In the absence of such specific information we can only express the general opinion that the persons who made these strong representations were singularly unwise. We have nothing but blame for members who can conveniently pay their twenty-five shillings in advance, and do not discharge their legal obligation; and pity for those who find it inconvenient to do so. Yet membership in the Association is voluntary, and we fear that the exigency of the demand will tempt some members into the rash and foolish step of withdrawal.

It will be hard to convince these fractious members that the procedure is designed primarily "to save them as much trouble as possible." They have experienced a similar solicitude on the part of tradesmen who were not entirely disingenuous in their proffer of accommodation. If the plea had been put forward that money was urgently needed for managerial, and clerical, expenses, for the heavy cost of travelling, for the publication in the official *Journal* of much material which it is an obligation to publish, these members might assent with alacrity to the probable truthfulness of the statement.

The Executive of the Canadian Medical Protective Association heard similar "representations" at the Halifax meeting in 1905, and "drew" upon the members for three dollars which, by some obscure process of reasoning, they thought was a more convenient amount to remit than the previous fee of two dollars and a half. It does not appear that the members at large were of that opinion. The result of this experiment by the general secretary may well form a subject of enquiry at the next annual meeting.

We have observed that this spirit of business is at work also in the management of the *Journal*. In the issue of December 15th, 1906, on