

and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York announce that after 1894 they will institute a four years' course, the first in the State to take the step, I believe.

The cost of instruction in the larger New York city colleges is considerably higher than in ours; for instance, a three years' course at Bellevue costs for tuition and examinations, \$525, without extras of any kind, and at the Physicians and Surgeons of New York, a three years' course costs \$635. The living expenses in New York are also much higher than in any of our cities. Both the fees and living expenses in the smaller cities and colleges throughout the State more nearly approximate ours.

We are proud of our Ontario schools and with perfect right, too. It is no idle boast that a student can be as well equipped in Toronto as anywhere in America. The college courses, controlled as they are by the Council's requirements, are longer and probably fuller than in the American colleges.

We must, however, acknowledge their better facilities for post graduate work, which is mainly due to their numerous dispensaries and hospitals, and the consequent large amount of clinical material available. EDWIN R. BISHOP, M.D.

LODGE PRACTICE AND CONTRACT WORK.

To the Editor of ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—The question of "lodge practice" has at various times been discussed by the medical men of this province, both in their different associations and in the medical and public press, but so far nothing definite has been done towards eradicating the evil. Some have thought that the Legislature should enact a statute making it illegal; others have considered that the Ontario Medical Council is the proper body to deal with it, while at least one registered practitioner has sought to make it appear that it is a perfectly proper and, indeed, praiseworthy practice. The arguments of the latter, however, if arguments they can be called, may be passed over as decidedly lame, and we may conclude that medical men are practically unanimous in the opinion that the contract system is an evil that should not exist.

The doctors of the town of Trenton, believing

that the remedy lies entirely in our hands, and that if we are only in earnest and agreed, we can wipe out this evil completely, have determined to have nothing more to do with lodge practice, and accordingly, on October 27th, the following gentlemen met to discuss various matters of mutual interest: Drs. A. R. Macdonald, J. B. Moran, T. J. Moher, Geo. Acheson, Jas. Third and J. A. Stevenson.

Dr. Macdonald was elected Chairman, and Dr. Acheson, Secretary of the meeting.

After considerable discussion, the following resolution was moved by Dr. Stevenson, seconded by Dr. Moher, and unanimously carried:

"We, the undersigned physicians, residing and practising in the town of Trenton, Ont., do hereby pledge our honour not to enter into any contract with any society, club, lodge, company or corporation to give medical attendance, advice or medicine to the members thereof for any stated period at a fixed rate per member, or for a lump sum per annum, or to do what is commonly known as "lodge doctoring," or to give our professional services to such on any other terms than to the general public, providing, that this resolution does not affect existing contracts terminating at the end of the current year.

(Signed) _____

At a subsequent meeting Drs. J. T. McKenzie and H. H. Hawley were also present, and expressed their entire approval of the above resolution.

Under date of Nov. 1st, this agreement was signed as follows:

A. R. MACDONALD, A.B., M.D.

JOHN A. STEVENSON, M.D.

J. B. MORAN, M.D.

J. T. MCKENZIE, M.D.

THOS. J. MOHER, M.

GEO. ACHESON, M.A., M.B.

H. H. HAWLEY, M.D., M.R.C.S.

It will be seen that the name of one of those present at the first meeting is wanting on this list. This individual, although at first having expressed distinctly his entire accord with the rest, has since seen fit to withdrawn his adherence, and refused to endorse the resolution. His reasons are, doubtless, satisfactory to himself.