

would have difficulty enough in living up to expectations. It does seem to us that it would be impossible to find anyone who could wisely decide upon such complex hospital problems as are here referred to; or who could deal judiciously with the training of nurses; or handle with satisfaction the matter of advertising; advise about venereal diseases; see that the medical colleges and the Council are conducting their affairs properly; and also note that there is adequate equipment for teaching purposes. The most difficult part, however, of his duties is that of deciding whether operations are necessary or not. It would be absolutely impossible for any man to be in all parts of the Province sufficiently often to be of any use. It may be accepted as a very general rule that to determine whether an operation is or is not necessary, the patient must be seen before the operation is performed. Some time after a breast has been amputated and the specimen destroyed, who is able to judge that the operation was justifiable and necessary. The same thing in the case of tonsils after they are removed. We feel that no man with all the wisdom of the fabled gods could fill the office.

#### V.—SO-CALLED COLLEGES.

With the views of the Commissioner on the so-called colleges all will agree, except those adversely affected. He says: "I regard it as very detrimental to the cause of medical education that these institutions—generally only a business name for an individual or a one-man company if incorporated—should be permitted to do any business under a name calculated to mislead the public as to the qualifications and real purpose of those concerned."

There is the true ring in this statement. It has been well known for some time that such bogus colleges existed, but there did not seem to be any way of reaching them. If the views of the Commissioner reaches the statutory form then they can be effectively dealt with. The report states that:

"Legislation is urgently needed to stamp out the use of any name that will indicate that collegiate work or instruction in medicine or any medical manipulative method or any so-called science, either of medicine, optics, or otherwise, within the sphere of the healing art, is being taught. Those incorporated should have their privileges withdrawn at once."

This would not only prevent the formation of any new bogus college, but would close up those that may now exist. This power has been needed for some time, and it is to be hoped that it may come soon.

#### VI.—DEFINITION OF PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

The report lays down the following as a suitable definition:

"The term 'practice of medicine' shall mean and include:

"(1) The use of any science, plan, method, system, or treatment with