

it ; of praise we will mete out to them their just dues. As our object is to make the JOURNAL a truly provincial one, its columns are open to the profession to express their views on matters pertaining to the governing body of the profession, as well as upon medical subjects.

From time to time we will take up the various acts of the Medical Council, criticise and explain them, and where necessary endeavour to show to the profession that they are not at all times deserving censure—where censure is given. Some members of the profession are at present misrepresenting the Council as to their position in regard to school and university representatives. They are not aware that this has been a serious question for years, and that the Council has done its best to remedy it, but as yet without avail. Two universities that are entitled to send representatives have not done so for some time, and some changes might be made in the school representation: but when members of the profession talk about abolishing all the school and university representatives, they are either unacquainted with the origin of the Council, or they desire to see the profession in the position it was thirty years ago. This JOURNAL, without fear or expectation of favour, will follow a course which we think will be in the best interest of the general profession. There are many things in the interest of the profession that the Council would like to do, but they have not the power, and it is not necessary for us to state that there is a widespread prejudice against the medical profession in the lay-mind, as is seen every now and then by the wild rush to some advertising quack who has not even the advantages of a common education, let alone a medical one.

The old remnants of superstition we inherit from our forefathers still cling to the race, and for this we must make allowances, and when we appeal to the Legislature, let it be done by the profession as a unit, knowing as we do the many prejudices of the lay-mind, and the fact that we are not always certain of receiving what we ask for. We would respectfully draw the attention of the busy practitioner to the address of Dr. Williams, of Ingersoll, the retiring President of the Council this year. He covers the field of Council proceeding in the past with accuracy and with care. He

shows at least that the members of the Council have been endeavouring to serve their constituents and advance the interest of that great body of professional men in this province, of whom we may well feel proud.

R. B. O.

#### RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

The old adage, *ne sutor ultra crepidam*, is particularly applicable in connection with the so-called reconstruction of the Faculty of Medicine of Toronto University. In a sense the reconstruction was the act of the Senate in that it adopted the report of the committee of the faculty of medicine. It was not, however, practicable for the Senate, as a whole, to enquire in detail into the working of the faculty and the efficiency of the staff, and thus be in a position to act wisely and well in making changes if such were deemed necessary. The work, in consequence, was entrusted to a committee whose report, though opposed by some in the Senate, was finally adopted. Under the circumstances no other course was open to the majority, and for the "reconstruction" that committee is really responsible. Its composition was, five of the legal profession, two clergymen, the head of an arts college, and one medical man. Though the gentlemen who composed the committee are men highly respected and of established reputation in their several professions, yet with one exception they are not medical men, and consequently neither, by profession or experiences, conversant with medical work or education. What would be thought of a committee composed of medical men appointed to regulate the affairs of a law school or reconstruct the teaching staff of a Theological College? The information upon which this committee based its report must have been largely drawn from outsiders.

The safest way to obtain material upon which to base a just report would have been by an open investigation, when all complaints could have been sifted and all persons interested heard. Instead of adopting such a course, however, it appears that private inquiries were made and information received privately and from private friends, and so great was the indispensable secrecy that the members of the committee seem to have had a