

be given to the ordinary business, and this, especially in the Canadian Association, is of immeasurable moment owing to the fact that a new Constitution and By-Laws will be presented as a report of the Special Committee on Re-Organization appointed at Halifax last year. The meetings of the Canadian Medical will be on the afternoon of the 20th and forenoon of the 21st of August; the Ontario Medical on the evening of the 20th. We urge a large, full, and representative attendance at both.

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The conferring of honorary degrees comes around year after year like the spring fever. It is an utter impossibility now-a-days for convocation to pass without a half dozen or more being brought forward for this distinctive honor; and in many instances it would appear though the honor were conferred not for eminence or distinction in scholarly attainments, but rather for success in politics or in business, or for the reason that the honor so conferred may bring grist to the university mill. To an ordinary mind it seems a piece of foolishness to grant degrees to mediocre men, who cannot lay any claim to greatness in either medicine, law, literature or science; and the wholesale bestowal of LL.D., a degree which ought to be reserved only for those who have attained eminence in learning, cannot be too strongly condemned. The graduates of an institution which values its honorary powers so lightly must look with an unkind eye upon the direction these self-same degrees sometimes go. Can it be that there is no one modest enough, or honest enough in the knowledge of his scholarly attainments, who ever thinks of refusing these degrees handed out by unwise heads which constitute the corporation of these institutions.

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We published in our May issue a copy of the bill on patent medicines which was before the recent meeting of the Ontario Legislature. There is a distinction between patent and proprietary, but the distinction is of less and less moment year after year. Formerly proprietary articles were looked upon with favor by the medical profession, and could, consequently, be styled ethical. The so-called patents never were. Doctors used these proprietary or ethical preparations in some cases on the strength of the representations made by their manufacturers probably mostly so in all cases. Some used them to greater extent than others; and amongst them all were found many use-