

of surgery is concerned, but some prognosticators are inclined to think that the time may not be far distant when this organization will say to our Medical Council, "The privilege you grant is too broad. Your requirements in certain subjects are not severe enough. Before a man should be allowed to do other than minor surgery he should come up to our requirements and receive our sanction." On the other hand there are different groups of those who say: "We wish to treat the sick, but we do not care to be judged by your standards. A great deal of what you ask us to know is not necessary according to our way of thinking. We have new and complete methods for the preservation of health and the relief and cure of human ills. It is true that we are not exactly agreed among ourselves as to what we should be called nor as to how long it takes to learn these methods. Some of us think they can be acquired in a few months. Others think it takes three or four years. However, here we are. We would like you to recognize us as legally qualified to treat the sick, but whether you do or not, we are going ahead, and we defy you to prove we are breaking the law or to penalize us if we are."

Such, gentlemen, is the present state of affairs, and the question is, What are we going to do about it?

The Ontario Medical Act says, article 49: "It shall not be lawful for any person not registered to practice medicine, surgery or midwifery for hire, gain or hope of reward; and if any person not registered pursuant of this Act, for hire, gain, or hope of reward, practices or professes to practice medicine, surgery or midwifery or advertises to give advice in medicine, surgery or midwifery, he shall, upon a summary conviction thereof before any justice of the peace for every such offence pay a penalty not exceeding \$100.00 nor less than \$25.00."

The Ontario Medical Act, however, gives no definition of the practice of medicine. Under date of March 19th the registrar of the Council writes me: "I have no idea how many osteopaths, chiropractors or Christian science healers there are in the Province of Ontario, but there must be over a thousand. We have been beaten every time we have prosecuted any of these people, as the judges have given a decision that in order to practice medicine drugs must be given, and if they are not used then they are not practising medicine according to our present Act."

The Standard Dictionary gives among other definitions of the word medicine: "The healing art; the science of the preservation of health and of treating disease for the purpose of cure."

