

surely an investigation should have been held, and recent events show that there was reason.

With this particular coroner we have no fault to find, as he is head and shoulders in both ability and judgment over most of them; but the instance just proves the strength of our argument. If men—strong medical men, who are accustomed to sifting out such troublesome cases—were appointed without fear or favor, inquests would be held when necessary and left alone when unnecessary. The latter item certainly would save the Government a nice penny, even in one year.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

After the late election in medical circles, the directorate of the *ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL* considered the advisability of drawing the different territorial divisions closer together in their relations, and establishing better and more amicable connections between them. They felt that this could not be better done than by the appointment of an associate editor for each division, recommended by the member-elect for that division. Consequently, lately this was done, and responses have been received from quite a number. In Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9 men were appointed, and in a good many others advice was withheld till the member could pick on a suitable man who cared to undertake the work.

We hope, and in fact expect, that by next issue we will have an editor for each division who will, we are sure, be of the greatest service to us and to the constituency by the publication of local medical items.

British Columbia.

Under control of the Medical Council of the Province of British Columbia.

DR. MCGUIGAN, Associate Editor for British Columbia.

Dr. J. M. Lefevre, of Vancouver, President of the British Columbia Medical Council, left on the 25th January for Vienna, where he has determined to remain for more than a year, for the purpose of studying surgery, of which he is going to make a specialty in future. Mrs. Lefevre accompanies him. We wish them both a very pleasant voyage,

and hope to see them back in Vancouver safe and sound in 1896.

Dr. Octavius Weld, late of London, Ont., has come to Vancouver to settle in practice, and is acting as Dr. Lefevre's *locum tenens*, while the latter is in Europe. Dr. Weld is a genial gentleman, and we feel certain will be popular with the profession and the public.

The vacancy in the Westminster Asylum for the Insane, due to the resignation of Dr. R. J. Bentley, the late medical superintendent, has been filled by Dr. G. F. Bodington, of Hatzie Prairie. The appointment has given considerable dissatisfaction in government political circles, inasmuch as Dr. Bodington was considered a very bitter opponent of the present administration, and during the late general elections took an active part in his constituency against Dr. Lefevre, who was running as a government supporter. The provincial secretary, Hon. Col. Baker, when the matter was brought up in the Legislature by Dr. Walkem, M.P.P., of Nanaimo, said the selection of Dr. Bodington was made on the ground of fitness, and further stated that with the exception of one other medical man in the Province, Dr. Bodington was the only person qualified by experience for the position. How correct that may be it is for the members of the medical profession in British Columbia to decide. Dr. Bodington is, we are told, seventy-two years of age, and, in the course of nature, cannot live forever; and it is to be hoped that if the position of medical superintendent should ever become suddenly vacant that there will be more material in the opinion of the provincial secretary of those days, whoever he may be, than there has been on this occasion; for when only two gentlemen are considered qualified, as is the case now, and one of those looks upon himself as out of the running, it is pretty hard to have to fall back on one single individual, who has passed the years allotted by the Psalmist for the life of man. So far as Dr. Bodington is concerned we have personally nothing to say against him. He has been in British Columbia for some years, and, as a professional man, has a good record. As a specialist in mental diseases he is said to have had considerable experience, having had charge of some asylum in England, the exact