

together to give what instruction they could. In this way was laid the foundation of McGill Medical College.

In the beginning of all the medical colleges of this country the work had to be undertaken as a private venture. The universities had not then come into the country's affairs; and later, when there were universities, they were not disposed to undertake the work of medical education. In Toronto the work of educating the medical student fell to the lot of such men as Rolph, Hadder, Aikins, Wright, and Geikie. Arduous was their task, small was their reward if it be counted in money, but great, indeed, it was, if estimated at its worth in the life of those days in the making of this country.

In Canada the medical colleges are now connected with some of our universities. This is as it ought to be. The trend of opinion all along the line is towards a five years' course. It will not be long ere this will be the legal time limit of training of the medical student in all the provinces. In this respect Canada has just cause to congratulate herself, and has led many of the older countries. But, while the course has lengthened in time, it has also broadened and deepened in character. We do not know any country where the curriculum of study demands more of the student than in Canada.

But we lack one thing. To this subject we have often referred, and shall continue again and again to refer to it until it is secured. We refer to a common national standard of examination and registration. Most of the provinces have already signified their willingness to come under the provisions of the Roddick Bill. We think if the Province of Quebec could agree to the terms of the Roddick Act Dominion Registration would be attained almost at once.

Now that Quebec has adopted a five year course one of the main obstacles has been removed. It is true that in Quebec, the university degree carries the right to practice, but the difficulty of imposing a further examination test could be got over by accepting the university degrees from all the provinces, provided these maintain a high enough standard. This, the Dominion Council could determine. We have not great admiration for that system that is keeping the student running the gauntlet of too many examinations. Plato could be plucked by modern fellows in philosophy, and John Hunter could not pass the Ontario Council examination. Yet Plato is the world's immortal philosopher and John Hunter one of its immortal physiologists, pathologists and surgeons. Give a student a thorough training in scientific and clinical work, exact of him a thorough knowledge of his work as laid down by his university, and when he has secured his degree let him register and begin his life work in any province of this great Dominion. As Osler said a few years ago in his address in Medicine at the Montreal meeting of the Canadian Medical Association: "Let us have done with parochialism!"