

the profession has been the gainer by its establishment. The advantages of division of work and devotion to one branch of practice are great and obvious, and, I believe, counterbalance to a great extent the objections that are urged against specialism. Like many other systems good in themselves, it is open to abuse, may readily be overdone, or may be cultivated by unworthy members.

Such are a few of the more striking changes which have been accomplished during the time that this Association has been slowly coming of age. At the time of its inauguration, there was much enthusiasm, and all minds were full of the great possibilities for the future from the confederation of the provinces. No narrow or provincial ideas were to be entertained, and all regulations concerning medical education and the practice of medicine, it was expected, would be assimilated for the whole Dominion. This Association started bravely forward on this basis, imbued with the idea that it had a great mission to fulfil. Committees were appointed, and elaborate reports prepared upon "The best means for General Education," upon "A Uniform System of Licenses," upon "Registration and Vital Statistics for the entire Dominion," and upon "A Code of Ethics for the whole Profession." During several years much labor was bestowed upon these subjects, and the greater share of time at the meetings was given to their discussion. It then, however, became apparent to the members that, in devoting their energies to working out schemes for medical legislation, much valuable time was being absorbed, and the results produced were by no means commensurate therewith. The Act of Confederation, by taking away from the Federal authorities the governance of educational matters, left each province free to look after these in its own way. Thus, at the present time, we find a curious complexity of medical legislation in Canada—there being no uniformity amongst the provinces in regard to matriculation, to curriculum, or to qualification for practice.

It is to be hoped that, before long, some arrangement may be come to by which, at least, a Dominion Medical Register may be established at Ottawa, so that, on entry therein, it will be