

The war is making great demands indeed upon our profession. I do not know of any other profession, where similar incomes have been thrown to the winds at the call of duty, and yet we must be prepared to do still more.

It will be wise if this Academy make representations to the Government both as to the best means of providing medical attendance for the people at home, and their sons overseas, and also as to the provision of a continuous supply of students, to fill the ranks of the profession depleted by death and enlistment.

It is also true that the relatively low rank under which medical officers serve, handicaps their work both individually and collectively, and in Canada a low estimate has been placed upon the Army Medical Service, the result of defective legislation which should have been remedied long since.

It is not too late yet for the Government to summon "intelligence" to its aid. Numbers of our profession have gained experience through service that would make it possible for them to give advice that would bring order out of the chaos that exists, and it is due to the high intelligence of our profession that the Government get the best advice which the leaders of medicine can supply. But we want no party politics. Let efficiency alone be considered, whether in appointments in Canada, Great Britain, or the field.

In looking over the work of our Academy in its many phases I am confronted by the surprising fact that we have as yet made no attempt to establish a Historical Museum. There are many interesting details connected with medical institutions which have passed out of existence, with leaders of the profession who are dead and gone, historical facts, relics of those we respected, medical diplomas, documents, etc., etc., which it should be the business as well as the profit of our Academy to collect and collate.

With the cordial permission of your council, I have appointed a committee of interested Fellows, and have great pleasure in handing the treasurer a cheque to form the nucleus of a special fund to start this branch of our legitimate work. I invite your coöperation. Give your ideas and information to the members of the committee, and keep an eye open to every opportunity which offers to obtain material for our historical museum.

Where questions of public welfare relating to medicine are concerned, the great obstacle to the proper presentation of the weight of medical opinion before parliament and the public, has been the lack of organization of the profession. Little attempt, if any, has been made to achieve this end by the College of Physicians