

importance, that the Association must continue its efforts towards prevailing upon the Dominion Government to undertake this great measure of reform.

A great future lies before the Canadian Medical Association; the ground of its foundation is so firm and the reasons for its existence and extension are so substantial and vital that one need not fear for its success. From its own intrinsic worth it will move on, overcoming difficulties. It is destined to become one of the principal factors in influencing Canadian public opinion and the parliaments, and in bringing about changes and reforms of the greatest value to the health and well-being of the state and the individual. While for our comfort all this is true, it does not follow that our every effort is not required to improve the position of the Association and to put it in a foremost place at the earliest opportunity.

There are several particular requirements towards the accomplishment of which we should direct our special energies at the present time. There are about eight thousand medical practitioners in Canada. Of these eight thousand, fifteen hundred and twenty-five are members of the Association—one-fifth of the medical population. Here is an opportunity for missionary work. There are many to be brought into the fold. We must not forget, however, that the membership has grown materially in recent years, and perhaps a steady gradual growth is of a more permanent character. Nor must we fail to remember and appreciate the splendid work which has already been done by many members of the Association; far from it. It remains for us to be the torch-bearers, to carry on work well begun.

A largely increased membership, interested in the work and objects of the Association, is one of the great desiderata of the Association, and it is for the members to exert their influence, so far as is possible, toward the consummation of this object. The membership should include a good representation of the two principal races in Canada. Last year the eminent Lucas-Championnière was invited to attend this meeting. He viewed with pleasure the prospect of meeting his French-Canadian confreres, and he had the matter under consideration when death removed his notable figure from the medical world.

A second important requirement is the amendment of the Association's Constitution and method of organization. As time has gone on the organization of the Association has been developed in accordance with what has been found successful in the great medical associations of Britain and the United States