

quoted will example the rest—the enlarged size and enlarged circulation of the annual announcement.

The second condition refers to the constitutional assessment and spending of the proceeds of the tax. That the tax was constitutional in its assessment till this year, when it was disallowed by the Legislature, is beyond question. This condition was not and is not affected by the action of the Legislature, as unconstitutionality, if we may use the word, was not the reason given for deferring it. Simply one clause was held in abeyance till the appointment of a new Council in order to get a definite view of the feelings of the medical electorate. If it were not constitutional, why did not the Committee repeal it altogether, and touch on as well all the other clauses in the Act referring to this tax which were left severely alone?

As to the expenditure of the tax by properly-appointed authorities, if that is necessary, the clause is certainly fulfilled. The representatives elected and appointed according to the law invariably handled the funds. Does our correspondent that there was or is any more properly constituted authority than this body itself?

All taxes like all comparisons are odious, whether inflicted on account of income or land or profession, and we entirely agree there with Dr. Sangster, but the odiousness does not at all take away from it the justice, the constitutionality or the necessity of the tax whatever it may be.

Dr. Sangster finally makes a mistake and a decided one when he says that the members of the Council used opprobrious epithets, etc., in speaking of the M.D.A. Surely he will remember the fact that the Council as a body offered their Association more changes and inducements than they got by their appeal to the Legislature.

#### CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A good many years ago it occurred to some of the members of the profession in the Dominion that there should be a way of forming a closer bond of union among the doctors in all the provinces. With that object in view a Medical Conference was called, with delegates from each of the provinces, to consider the matter. They met in the Hall of Laval University, Quebec, on Wednesday, October 9th, 1867. Dr. James Arthur Sewell, President of the Quebec Medical Society, was in

the chair. Dr. Alfred Belleau acted as secretary.

After some preliminary business had been transacted, Dr. Wm. S. Harding, of St. John, N.B., moved, seconded by Dr. Wm. Marsden, of Quebec, "That it is expedient for the medical profession of the Dominion of Canada to form a medical association, to be named the Canadian Medical Association." Carried.

The first President of the Association was Hon. (now Sir) Charles Tupper, of Halifax, N.S.

Thus commenced an organization, the value of which cannot be over-estimated by the profession of this Dominion. Since then large and successful provincial societies have sprung up, and it has been thought that the work of the Canadian Medical Association had been completed. Fortunately for the profession generally, this opinion has been held by but a limited number, and up to the present all attempts to curtail its usefulness have failed. During the last few years there has been much enthusiasm over the meetings, and the attendance has been large. Next year the meeting will be held in St. John, N.B., some time in September, and if united effort can do anything the members of the profession in the Maritime Provinces intend to make this one of the most successful meetings the Association has ever known.

#### COSMETICS.

How often it is that upon recommending some application to the face we are met with the question, "But, doctor, are you sure that it will not injure the skin?" Tracing this back to find out why such an impression prevails, we too often find that the general practitioner, indulging in generalities, has advised against the use of *facial medication*, because it injures the complexion, or because it may drive in the eruption, if there be one, and cause some constitutional malady which, as yet, we have been unable to classify in our nomenclature. It is well that such impressions should exist concerning *quack nostrums*, for these used without knowledge of their action may do an immense amount of harm, even though in themselves they may be valuable remedies for certain cases.

Recently a paper was read on this subject by R. B. Morison, of Baltimore, before the American Dermatological Association, and it subsequently appeared in the *Journal of Cutaneous and Genito-*