

We make these suggestions with a great deal of diffidence, and mainly in order to bring them before the association. And we hope they will be fully discussed, as we cannot conceal from ourselves that the question is a very important one, and that perhaps upon our action the future welfare of the profession may largely depend.

We feel that to relieve those who apply caustics to cancers from the penalties of the Act would be in the highest degree unwise. It is notorious that in numberless instances great and unnecessary suffering is daily caused by the application of these caustics to harmless growths, and that in numerous instances death is the result of the application of escharotics by persons ignorant of the first principles of medicine and surgery.

The other bill, if passed, would have greatly reduced the already scanty supply of anatomical material at our medical schools, and would have a tendency to drive our students to countries where the people were more enlightened and subjects easier to be obtained. Dissection cannot harm the subject. It can only be the effect upon living friends; who then so proper for a subject as he who leaves no friends?

We think the public mind needs education with regard to this subject, and that the press and the profession might and should do a great deal toward it. The ordinary layman thinks the medical mind differently constituted from ordinary humanity, and that the anatomist dissects a subject for mere amusement; that, as the old French pathologist has said, to answer the question in the rubric, "What is the chief end of man?" by "To furnish pathological specimens," so the anatomist thinks his chief end is to furnish work for his scalpel.

The report of the Committee on Public Health, which was adopted by the association, should demand the attention of the practitioners and the public. The report read as follows:

Your committee would report that since the last meeting of the association the province has been fortunate in not being visited with any outbreak of smallpox, and that contagious diseases other than diphtheria have not caused any serious mortality in Ontario.

Regarding the latter, your committee would

express its regret that in spite of the efforts made by physicians and boards of health generally many outbreaks have been reported from every part of the province, and that some of these have been of an extended and fatal character. While the cause of the disease is generally understood, it is not so well known to the public or appreciated by the profession that the disease under ordinary conditions is of an intensely contagious and infectious character. This being the case, your committee would urge upon the members of the association, and through them the public, the necessity of making known to the proper authorities by every means in their power the locations where individual cases exist, so that the authorities may not only warn the public to shun contagion where exposure is unnecessary, but in cases where local isolation, through poverty or other cause, is impossible the local health authorities may remove such to houses or hospitals where isolation may be properly carried out.

Especially would your committee direct attention to the danger of the spread of this fatal and prevalent disease through the medium of schools, public and private, Sunday and charity schools. Much attention has been given to sanitary matters by municipalities during the past year in the matter of public water supplies and systems of sewerage. Everywhere the necessity of a pure water supply is making itself apparent in outbreaks of typhoid fever, and the importance of controlling both public and private supplies is being daily better understood by the public.

That an immense impetus has been given to public health work by the establishment of permanent boards of health is fully appreciated by your committee; but it also very fully recognizes that by the great advances made in physical and medical science, but notably in biology and chemistry, has the present improved status of public health legislation and executive control of disease been made possible.

TREATMENT OF THE TZAR'S CONSUMPTIVE SON.—The Grand Duke George, the Tzar's second son, who, ever since his enforced return through illness from his Indian tour, has been under medical treatment for pulmonary disease, has been passing the winter at Abbas-Tuman in