

the achromatic microscope has rendered us great assistance in studying the nature of disease, and the X-rays has enabled us to pierce what was before impenetrable gloom. The harvest is ready but not riper than it has been for centuries, but there are more enlightened and better educated and better equipped workers in the field. There is very much to be done and we must constantly be up and doing. I say this particularly to the young and enthusiastic. The foundation of our knowledge as modern doctors is science and the superstructure must be built upon scientific lines. Hospitals are needed, not such as those that were first established, but modern, properly equipped and up-to-date institutions, with modern up-to-date methods.

Many hospitals have been erected through the munificence of individuals in the towns throughout our country. Every town of any size should have its hospital. Such institutions are not intended to do the work of the larger ones in sixteen larger centres; but there is a certain amount of work that can never reach the larger centres that can be done very satisfactorily in smaller hospitals properly equipped and served by a properly educated profession. Assistance from the larger fields of observation can be obtained when required and under improved conditions such aid will be of great service. The almost universal use of the electric light aids our work very materially.

Our prisons have been improved. Our younger criminals have been cared for. Our insane have been kept off the streets. Our poor are being looked after, and now health and comfort go hand in hand. The true function of our study and deliberation is to prevent rather than to cure disease, and we are fulfilling our functions. But yet death reigns everywhere and at all times, and in all places, and we know it. But he is not the stalking giant that he was. He has been marvellously reduced in stature. Our medical press requires considerable regeneration. The articles published are not censored as rigidly as they should be. Much that is written and published is incomplete, speculative and inaccurate, and hence is misleading. Our journals should be purely scientific publications and not the hot beds for the propagation of unstable theories. Looking back is not always a pleasant pastime, but there is a definite certainty about it, that it does not belong to the future. All that has been printed is liable at any time to be reviewed.

And now in closing, let me say that during the year that has passed, a much desired amalgamation has been effected between two of our greatest educational institutions, Trinity and Toronto University. At first the task looked like a hopeless one, but owing to the good feeling existing between the rival faculties, it was finally achieved. Our province stands high in the bank-