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noted that the patient is responsible for practically only the fees payable to his doctor for his attendance; all other expenses, with the exception of his drug bill, being taken care of by the municipality. As to the fees charged by doctors attending a patient, I understand that these are the fees that would be payable if the patient attended at the doctor's own office. This is an item worthy of consideration as I believe that the mileage charged by doctors attending patients out in the country sometimes runs into very large figures."

#### Conservation vs. Immigration

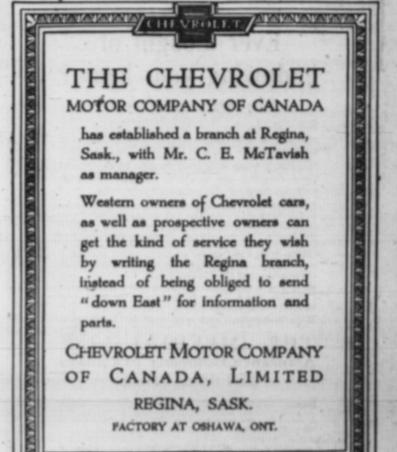
This whole hospital movement, whether exemplified in such a co-operative hospital of in such a co-operative hospital of in such a co-operative hospitals of municipal hospitals, is a sign of the times, a-sign that we are awakening to the unscientific manner in which the whole system of medical service has been and is being handled in this country. We are constantly striving to secure immigrants from foreign countries, many of whom must be a burden for some time, and yet we have neglected to give even reasonable assistance in the conservation of the lives of men, women and children of settlers already here and established. What would we call the man who would go back again and again to a bank to borrow money to bring in livestock from other-places, while he failed to take reasonable precautions to look after what he already had? But that's practically what has been happening on the prairies of this country for a long time. There is hardly a day that somewhere on the great, boundless and lonesome plains between Winnipeg and the Rocky Mountains a man or woman does not succumb to conditions and end up in one of the asylums. You can see this most any day at Ponoka or North Battleford. I have seen it more than once and the mounted police were the conductors, too. It's partly the result of isolation from humanity, or a combination of causes, but proper medical attention at the right time would avert a tremendous amount of it and conserve to the country thousands of homes that are now being broken up.

Perhaps we should not censure ourselves too hard when we remember that little more has been done anywhere on the continent, even under conditions that lend themselves much more toward co-operative effort than Western Canada. There are a few cases, however, where a beginning has been made. Ten years ago the University of California began a system of co-operative medical protection. There 7,000 students payed a year toward a common fund and in return each gets free advice and treatment. The medical service is said by ushias

#### The Trend of Medical Practice

We can scarcely expect to reform our present consultation and one family doctor system in a hurry, but that is the direction in which we must work, because medical science has become too





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