

Queen's to move in the matter so that our laboratories and the services of our experts might be freely at the disposal of the profession and the public.

The Faculty after full consideration decided to make a proposition to the Provincial Board of Health, offering to do such pathological and bacteriological work as is done in the laboratory at Toronto in return for a nominal grant. The amount was fixed at what was estimated to be the actual cost of making examinations.

It is with regret that we announce to the profession in Eastern Ontario that our proposal has been unfavorably received by the Provincial Board of Health and by those members of the Ontario Government who control the Board.

The reasons given for this action are very inadequate and will not satisfy the profession. It is not denied that a branch laboratory is needed, for it is announced that the policy of the department is to have a laboratory in every county under a County Health Officer. Such a scheme is, however, entirely visionary under present conditions. Men qualified to conduct such a laboratory are not to be had, and if, in the future, they become available it will not be possible to combine efficient laboratory work with the care of the health of a county, the latter duty requiring constant travel in investigating cases of contagious disease. If a laboratory is of any value its service must be available at any moment.

The main reason advanced for refusing the proposal is that other centres would demand like treatment. It seems strange that such a possibility should carry so much weight. In the meantime, however, it ought to be enough to point out that Kingston is in the position of having laboratories thoroughly equipped and in charge of an expert who has the confidence of the profession and the public.

The present decision of the Department can scarcely be accepted as final by that section of the profession directly interested in the matter. The Faculty is willing to make any reasonable arrangement to secure the desired result.

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