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Original Articles

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—DELIVERED BEFORE THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, TORONTO

MEDICAL EDUCATION—MEDICAL CONGRESS

BY HERBERT J. HAMILTON, M.D.

In the first place I wish to thank the Fellows of the Academy of Medicine for electing me to fill this important position for the present year. Whilst fully appreciating the honor they have done me I appreciate still more my own limitations, and recognise that the distinction carries with it certain responsibilities, not the least of which is that of selecting a subject for this address which will be of interest to the Academy as a whole. From this point of view I can think of nothing more appropriate than the question of medical education, which has recently given rise to a considerable amount of discussion throughout the medical world. Its efficiency is a matter of paramount and general importance, in that it tends to raise the standard of those entering the profession.

The Carnegie Committee on Medical Education has carefully investigated the condition of medical education, and has now published two exhaustive reports, one dealing with America, and the other with Great Britain and the Continent of Europe. An analysis of the results of this investigation indicates that, while the systems of medical education in vogue in the different countries vary within wide limits, one being superior to the others sometimes from one and sometimes from another point of view, no single system possesses such uniform advantages as to justify its being regarded as absolutely perfect. The publication of these reports has led to a consensus of opinion that higher standards are