

The Month

It is with a good deal of satisfaction that we are able to state that the government of Saskatchewan held the same views as set forth in former issues of our journal, viz., that one employed in the Department of Public Health as a public servant should not engage in general practice in competition with ordinary unsubsidized medical practitioners. This deduction has been drawn from the fact that the medical gentleman imported by our esteemed Commissioner of Health of Saskatchewan had to decide between a career in the public service or general practice. The latter was chosen.

We congratulate the administration on the firm stand taken. It will show that a public servant cannot override the wishes of a considerable number of citizens with impunity.

Before closing this matter, we may be allowed to suggest that the Department of Health of Saskatchewan would in future do well to confine its attention and energy to its legitimate work, and develop its efficiency. It does not appear wise to deliberately antagonize those who have the power to give loyal support to the department in times of stress.

One of our contemporaries has pointed out that in Toronto the police department of that city has made the statement in the daily papers that medical men have not the right to jeopardize the lives of citizens while answering an emergency call; or as the Montreal Medical Journal puts it: "Hurry cases do exist, but they do not occur as often as the public think they do, and no one but a medical man fully appreciates how few lives actually depend upon those two minutes that are saved by reason of the speed of the motor or other conveyance." The article then speaks regarding the "Speeding ambulances" in Montreal and says, "For years a patient public has had to put up with ambulances going at breakneck pace, with gongs that ring furiously, whose every sound is an excitant to nervous prostration."