

his own hospital and physician. He said that such custom and such tendency was becoming more prevalent. With such conditions he favored the grant, provided it was distributed to the various hospitals throughout the city.

Dr. R. A. Reeve, in reply, said that Dr. Ferguson, was quite mistaken with regard to the practice of allowing the profession generally to take advantage of hospital facilities, and attend cases particularly those of charity or public ward patients. That practice is being restricted more and more by the best hospitals in America and Europe, and the cases are attended by those who are responsible to the trustees. It is felt that in this way you can fasten the responsibility upon the respective members of the staff, which would not otherwise be possible. It appears to us that it would be a great mistake to oppose this generous offer and this movement which has been initiated, and so far brought to a successful issue by a few public-spirited men, to whom the profession of Toronto is greatly indebted, and to whom the citizens will be much more indebted in the near future. It is desirable that we should have a modern hospital, fully equipped in all its departments.

In regard to certain conditions which are proposed in the new institution. By virtue of the gift directly and indirectly, of \$300,000 from the Government, there is the condition that public ward patients should be under the care of the medical faculty of the University of Toronto. There is a double object in this: First, the case of the sick under conditions most effectual, and, secondly, the promotion of the education of young men, the better to fit them to discharge their duty as members of the medical profession. It is recognized all the world over that hospitals have a double function to discharge, and I am sure this will not be controverted by those who are opposing this movement to-day.

It is contended by those opposed to this movement that it is unjust to the general profession not to allow them to attend patients in the public wards—those paying only \$3.50 per week, or those admitted on civic orders. Every patient of that sort costs the trustees of the hospital at least \$3.50 per week, in addition to the civic grant of fifty cents per day, and it is hardly fair to consider him in the light of a private ward patient.

Gentlemen who have spoken to-day contend that the profession at large should be allowed to attend these patients without reference to whether they have positions on the staff. I take issue with them. The members of the profession are qualified, but I maintain in the interest of the public, and particularly in the interest of the poorer classes, that results are better where the staff are responsible, directly to the authorities of the institution.