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EDITORIAL.

PROFESSOR WOODHEAD'S ADDRESS.

We give in another portion of this issue Professor Sims Woodhead's address at the opening of the Medical Faculty last October. A word may be said here as to why the publication has been delayed so long. When Professor Woodhead was in Toronto, he was on his way to the Congress on Tuberculosis to be held in Washington, and had not had time to perfect his address. Further, there were some points of detail on which he wished time to add some words. As the address deals with medical education, a topic of much importance in this young country, and by one who has had much to do with the Universities in Britain, it would be well for the medical profession in this country to give heed to what he has to say.

He refers to the usage once in vogue when the student had to spend three or four years on an Arts curriculum on the liberal studies of philosophy, mathematics, and the humanities. This has been relaxed in Britain and the student has to pass a matriculation examination in lieu of the Arts degree. This was probably a retrograde movement.

It is well worth close attention to note what he has to say about the course of study for the degree of M.B., or Ch.B. The University of Edinburgh shows a good deal of liberality in accepting the work done at other Universities. This might be carefully considered by Canadian Universities.

It is interesting to note the points of agreement and difference in the courses of study in Edinburgh and Cambridge Universities.

Professor Woodhead offers some criticism on the advisability of giving so many didactic lectures as is still the custom in some Universities, notably Edinburgh. In the history of medicine we note that at one time the only method was by the apprenticeship system, or going to some distinguished teacher whose only opportunity was by word of mouth, as he had no hospital at his command. This is all changed now. Professor Woodhead does not go the length of saying that all lectures should be discontinued, but he claims that for the imparting of facts