

the Medical Council, and of maintaining the standard of medical education as a protection to the public.

This announcement of his views by the Minister of Education will no doubt be pleasing to the majority of the profession in Ontario, as it will be regarded as the index of the mind of the Government regarding the matter. I must say, however, that Mr. Ross does not give any definite grounds for hope that the views expressed at the "meds." dinner will necessarily bind the Ontario Government to a policy of medical protection in the approaching session of the House. The fact is, the Patrons are after our scalp, and if they are strong enough they may get it.

The question may be asked here, Why should the Patrons of Industry or the representatives of any section of the people of this Province, desire to destroy a profession so useful and necessary to the public as that of medicine? I fear it must be admitted that the cause is to be sought for mainly within the profession itself. There are registered traitors, whose sole object is to make money, and secretly desire to remove every obstacle, ethical and legal, in order to satisfy their lust for gain. These men will use the Patrons, or even the devil himself, to gain their ends. The honor of the profession is of no account to these licensed quacks. There is another class in the profession who, though not actually plotting with any political iconoclasts, are more destructive because more numerous—I mean the club or contract doctor. They make themselves the slaves of their employers, and are gradually reducing the already meagre average income of our profession, so that now a good mechanic enjoys an income more certain and more remunerative than the average doctor. In time, our men who are conscientiously striving to live up to the ethical standard will get tired of fighting against these dollar-a-year men, and be driven in the struggle for existence, to sink all scruples of professional conscience and take up the job of the fakir. Indeed, it is to be feared that we are fast drifting into fakirism as it is.

To return to the well-meaning utterances of the Minister of Education, I would ask Mr. Ross how he accounts for the noticeable deterioration in the moral of the profession *pari passu*, with an advancing curriculum and all the efforts of the Ontario Medical Council to stamp out quackery and maintain the dignity and honor of the profession. Is our modern medical student a mere mercenary, with no regard for high and noble aims, and a worshipper of the great god "Get there" no matter how, or are there too many medical schools interested in manufacturing for an already over-supplied market?