

expressed in an editorial of the *Journal* of the American Medical Association, of July 28th:

"The medical service has not been given the rank and authority which its importance deserves, and the work of the medical department, and the views and opinions of medical officers, have not been given sufficient weight by military men. To permit an officer with military training alone, no matter how high his rank or how brilliant his attainments as a soldier, to dictate conditions regarding the hygiene and sanitation of troops and the management of hospitals is as ridiculous as it would be to give a surgeon authority over the artillery or the aviation corps. Subject always to the necessities of warfare, the military and medical services must be on an equality. Each line of activity requires highly specialized technical training. To permit either one to encroach on the field of the other is not only absurd, but is often suicidal. Especially should there be the closest coördination and coöperation between the military and medical officers in order that the medical Corps may be of the greatest assistance. This is the lesson which Japan learned in Manchuria, and which the British have demonstrated on the Western front."

And in the utterance of Lord Esher, in the *London Times*, of February 3rd:

"Certainly the control of the adjutant-general's branch over the Royal Army Medical Corps was and is responsible not only for the early failure to grip the medical factors of the war, but the hampered conditions under which the Surgeon-General worked. His triumphs and those of the Royal Army Medical Corps have been achieved in spite of obstacles that the subordination of science to ignorance, and of elasticity to military discipline explains, but cannot justify."

The passage of the Military Service Act, at Ottawa, raises two questions of intense interest to our profession. First, What number of army surgeons can the profession of this country legitimately supply; and, second, Shall students entered upon their course of medical study be liable to the draft?

In August last, the Central Medical War Committee of Great Britain informed the Government that after a careful survey of the whole of England and Wales, it is of the opinion that no more physicians can be called on to take commissions in the Army Medical Corps, without seriously endangering the supply of physicians for the treatment of the civil community.

In Australia the stress has become so great that the senior