

## Correspondence.

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### Ontario Medical Council.

*To the Editor of the CANADIAN MEDICAL REVIEW.*

SIR,—In fulfilment of my promise to further discuss Council matters in the next issue of the MEDICAL REVIEW, I now proceed to answer the question: "What is the nature of the machinery, existing in the Medical Council, by means of which every proposition looking towards retrenchment, and every reform projected in the interests of the profession is promptly and inexorably voted down therein, and this in face of the fact that, with seventeen territorial representatives in a Council of only thirty members, the medical electorate *ought* to be able to completely control its executive?"

To thoughtful persons it has long been a matter of surprise that the atmosphere of the Medical Council chamber has, hitherto, proved to be so uniformly fatal to all individualism, to all personal independence of thought and effort on the part of its elected members; that the seats in the Council assigned to territorial representatives were, in effect, just so many Procrustean beds, the occupants of which had to submit to being stretched or curtailed to the standard or prescribed dimensions. Time and again, in the past, men of conspicuous intelligence and integrity, pledged to inaugurate important changes, have been elected to membership in the Council, and great things have been expected of their presence there; and yet, in some hitherto mysterious way, they have been promptly whipped into line and made so tame that they became afraid even to bark where they had loudly promised to bite. The *modus agendi* is no longer a mystery. It now transpires that this delectable result has, for years past, been secured by a method which is familiar to ward politicians and to secret organizations of the less reputable class, but which was not heretofore supposed to have found recognition or a place in any public incorporation in the province of Ontario. The Medical Council consists, it appears, of an outer and an inner circle. The latter is a secret junta which is summoned to meet one day earlier than the date on which Council's annual session opens. It is composed of the homœopaths, the appointees and some five or six territorial representatives who have shown themselves to be of such approved ductility that they have