

The members of our Association, in order to qualify themselves for specialized practice, have had to spend often many years in post-graduate study abroad to extend their knowledge. If those wishing to undertake other special forms of practice have to go elsewhere for training or to extend their knowledge, after graduation in the regular way, they have a similar right and opportunity to do so; and for this no special legislation is required.

May we also point out the claims which the body of regular practitioners have for asking consideration of their views by reason of the gratuitous medical services which they have always rendered the indigent, and their efforts in furthering preventive medicine and promoting the public health.

At the present time hundreds of the doctors of this Province are overseas in the service of their country, and many hundreds of those at home are caring for the needy dependants of our soldiers. We submit that at such a time and in the absence of many from the country it would be an act of injustice and ingratitude on the part of the Province to give legal status to any body of inferiorly trained persons to practise and thus to jeopardize their interests unnecessarily.

In the questions now at issue the Ontario Medical Association wishes to place itself on record as taking the broadest possible ground in the interests of the community for the advancement of the science and practice of medicine—preventive as well as curative—as well as for the safety of the sick and ailing. We seek only equal rights for all in upholding those principles which are essential alike for the safety of the sick and ailing, and for the promotion of medical knowledge and practice in all its branches, which principles in this Province were established primarily for the protection of the people from the dangers of incompetent medical practice and quackery.

THE ROYAL MEDICAL COMMISSION

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO,
November 29th, 1915.

MR. H. S. OSLER, K.C.: The body that I have the honor to represent before the Commission is the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, which is the practising medical profession, incorporated by the Legislature of this Province, the present Act of Incorporation being R.S.O. (1914), Chap. 161.