

quirements of the Council and the limitations prescribed by the Ontario Medical Act, and being also annually and increasingly a source of great financial loss to the College, it be at once offered for sale by competitive tender, and that in event of a sale being effected an offer be made to lease from the purchaser for a lengthened period of time the rooms occupied by the Council, at a reasonable rental.

Dr. WILLIAMS—I, for one, would object to that being referred to the next meeting, that is a matter that strictly comes within the province of the Finance Committee, and the Finance Committee may be going to their work, and they should have their full work put before them, and put before them at once; and that is legitimately a part of their business.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN—The object of Dr. Thornton, in asking that this stand until the afternoon meeting of this Council, is that he may see the financial reports that are brought in. This motion cannot be properly and intelligently discussed until the financial reports be discussed and examined. Dr. Thornton asks for a delay of a few hours to look at those. It may be out of taste to say what my experience has been, but I have been in Parliament for ten years, and I never knew a member yet to ask for a postponement of his motion but it was granted—never once, and I press that this Council will give Dr. Thornton an opportunity to look at this financial statement in order that he may more fully and intelligently discuss it, and in order that the Council may do the same.

The President then put the question to the Council, whether leave should be granted to Dr. Thornton to defer his motion till the afternoon session of the Council. Leave granted.

Dr. SANGSTER—I move, seconded by Dr. Thornton, "That the matriculation requirements of this Council now in force shall cease to be accepted on and after the first day of October, 1896, subsequently to which date every person desirous of being received by this Council as a matriculate shall present to our Registrar the official certificate of having passed the Departmental Senior Leaving Examinations." Most members of the Council will probably remember that in 1892, three or four years ago, a committee was appointed by this Council to examine into the subject of preliminary and professional education then existing in the Dominion, in the United States. I think, in Europe and in England. That committee was requested to make a report, conveying to this Council the information received and to accompany it with such suggestions as they might deem proper for adoption by this Council. They, after giving a good deal of time and attention to the matter, made a report. In their report in respect to preliminary education—in respect to that education which is preliminary to a medical course, and with which alone I am now concerned—they stated in effect that while in Great Britain several universities required the degree in Arts, and some of them much more extensive attainments as preliminary to medical studies, the General Council of Medical Education of Great Britain, not having power to prescribe, the year previously recommended, or asked, that minimum requirements for matriculation should be established considerably in excess of those demanded by the most exacting medical institutions in Great Britain, and some certainly not lower than those that the committee was then prepared to recommend for adoption

by this Council. They further drew attention to the fact that in France, in Germany, in Austria, in Russia, in Switzerland, in Spain and in Portugal matriculation requirements equal to a degree in Arts were in force; and in several of these countries much more material attainments were insisted upon, and that in Austria a degree in Arts, I believe, was required. That committee, after giving a good deal of time and attention to the subject, presented a well-matured and well-digested report, in which it placed upon record its opinion that in the Province of Ontario, which is the peer in education of any of these countries, and in which the facilities for secondary and higher education are far in advance of most of them, the time has come when a degree in Arts might very reasonably be asked from all those desirous of entering upon the study of medicine. While placing their opinion to that effect on record, the committee decided to ask this Council to forthwith adopt as the standard of its requirements what is known as the senior leaving departmental examination, otherwise known as the honor entrance examination of the University. By influences and arguments, into which I need not now enter, the proposition then made was defeated, and the pass departmental matriculation University examination was accepted as a standard of requirements for matriculation. This examination, while practically covering the same ground as the requirements formerly in force, is, by reason of the lower percentage required, nearly one-third lower than the examination in force up to that time, so that this Council, instead of leaving the matriculation examination as was proposed, actually degraded it to that extent. Now, sir, the arguments that were mainly made use of to produce that result were chiefly three. In the first place, it was stated that there were so few that presented themselves for that examination that it would cut off all applications from matriculates to this Council; in the second place, it was said the profession desired to raise about itself a Chinese wall of exclusion; and, in the third place, it was intimated that the Minister of Education was opposed to any material advancement of the educational standard. As these same objections may be presented on the present occasion, I may as well refer to them briefly, by anticipation. The last I may dismiss as being merely used for effect, because it transpired in that very meeting that the Minister of Education was not opposed to the elevation of the matriculation standard; on the contrary, that he had himself suggested the senior leaving examination, and I know that the Minister of Education is not opposed to the elevation, and the material elevation, of the matriculation standard of this Council. The first of the objections that I have named may be dismissed as scarcely worth the breath in which it was urged. It is true that very few persons have heretofore presented themselves for that examination. Why? Because it is essentially of the nature of a specialist teacher's examination, and there were few that required to present themselves for it. It is true that it is also the senior entrance, or the honor entrance examination into the University; but inasmuch as the Department has accepted a higher standard of marks than the University has for those who pass that examination, most persons who have desired to enter the University on that standard, have preferred to present themselves before the University