

headed before they see the same standard of education that we have now. The Patrons would abolish the Council and hand back to the schools the power to grant licenses.

Dr. Sangster would abolish all school representation on the Council.

Anyone who has followed up the very verbose letters of the Secretary of the Defence Association for the past two years, can well understand the action of the Patron council concerning those letters, and how the Defence Association is entirely accountable for such action. If the Medical Act is amended as they desire, it will be an evil day for the Patrons, as well as the profession.

COUNCIL PROSECUTIONS.

Among the many official duties of a Medical Council, one of the most important is that of "Discipline." In our Ontario Board this department is one of the best—looked after by a committee under the able chairmanship of Dr. W. H. Day.

In former years this province was overrun with advertising men—men without any sense of the propriety and dignity of the profession, who interfered in many ways with legitimate practice. True, they almost invariably did more harm than good, but they were a vexation both to the public, gullible as it was, and to all legitimate practitioners. Look now; these men have been severely and properly dealt with. To a very large extent we find ourselves free from any such annoyances. Closely connected with the work of this committee is that of the Medical Prosecutor, Thomas Wasson. In a note from him in this issue examples are given of his good work. It is a very short time after the inception of any establishment by any unlicensed person before he has set his line to catch his fish. In a few days we read that "So-and-So" has been fined for breach of the Medical Act.

If many—we think we make a mistake, we should say few—had their way the country, instead of being protected as it is now, would be fully stocked, and the people, instead of having money in their pockets, would have the medicine of fakirs either in themselves or on their shelves.

DIPHTHERIA AND THE NEW YORK BOARD OF HEALTH.

The New York Board of Health has conducted a series of investigations on diphtheria, with regard to the length of time after an affection the bacillus can be found in the throat. They send to each practitioner the medium blood serum, and full directions how to inoculate by applying sterilized cotton wool swab to the throat or other organs, and rubbing the swab on the culture media; these inoculated cultures are then collected by the Bacteriological Department and placed in an incubator. They have already examined some six thousand cases, and have established the fact that one of the most important means of disseminating the disease is from convalescent cases, for long periods after symptoms had disappeared they found virulent organisms in the throat. These experiments have led the Health Department to adopt the rule that no person who has suffered from diphtheria shall be considered free from contagion until a bacteriological examination has been made, and the absence of virulent organisms established.

DISEASE PREVENTION.

The prevention of disease is to-day receiving more attention from the medical profession and from municipalities than ever before. The duty of a physician does not cease with the treatment of the individual immediately suffering from a disease, but his best efforts must be used to prevent the infection of others and to see that everything that might be contaminated with the virus of the disease is disinfected or destroyed. A perusal of the report of the Ontario Board of Health for 1893 shows what has been done by the Health Boards throughout the province, and the good results obtained can only be a source of much satisfaction. But the best possible results are yet far from being obtained. The Ontario Board and many of the local Boards of Health are doing excellent work, but time and patience are required to educate the municipal authorities to a proper sense of their duties and responsibilities. Too often, from selfish motives, or from a policy of false economy and fear of the taxpayer, the municipal Solons burk the efforts of their Board of Health.