

At first sight it would seem as if any plan were impossible that looked to united action. The Dominion Parliament cannot, on the one hand, infringe on the Provincial jurisdiction, while, on the other hand the Provincial Legislatures cannot unite in creating a central or federal medical board, because their powers are, in each instance, confined strictly to their own territory. If this opinion be correct, any scheme looking to interprovincial registration, or in other words any bargain made between the Profession in the various Provinces, or between the Boards as representing the Profession, would be *ultra vires*.

Under Section 91 however, of the British North America Act, the Dominion Parliament has power "To make laws for the Peace, Order and good Government of Canada, in relation to all matters not coming within the Classes of Subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces." Under these general terms it is believed that the Dominion Parliament may create a corporation for such objects relating to medical education and practice as are of general Dominion interest and importance, and as are beyond the Provincial powers.

Uniformity of medical education and the promotion of interprovincial registration are just such objects. The plan by which it is now proposed (for our purpose) to effect them is as follows:—

By an Act of the Dominion Parliament, a corporation may be created called, let us say *The Dominion Medical Council* which would be composed of medical practitioners from each province and from the Northwest territories. The principal function of this council would be to register all persons who have complied with certain requirements, as to education and training for the practice of medicine and surgery, and all applicants who shall have complied, would receive what might be termed Dominion registration by the council.

This registration would, however, *per se* confer no right to practise in any province of the Dominion. The Dominion Parliament has, of course, no power to make such an enactment; but it is within its power to enact that such registration shall alone confer the right to practise in any of the territories over which it has direct legislative control; and it may provide that such registration shall be a condition of employment in any medical capacity in the active service of the Dominion, as for example, the quarantine service, penitentiary surgeons, mounted police surgeons, the surgeons of the militia force generally, etc. Besides another important result of the establishment of such a system would be that Medical practitioners registered under it could claim registration under the Imperial Medical Act of 1886, without undergoing further examination. By this Act (as you are aware) where parts of a British possession are under both a central and a local legislature, the authority of the central legislature is requisite to entitle a