

A plain statement of the cost of the site and of the building is to be found on pages 222 and 223 of this year's Announcement.

The site	\$13,000 00
New building	75,046 54
Total	\$88,046 54
Less old building sold	100 00
Total cost	\$87,946 54
Paid on building and site	27,946 54
Balance due being mortgage	60,000 00

which bears interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

We cannot understand how the alleged deficit of \$5,000 per annum, in the Council's accounts in carrying building, is arrived at, the statements made in the circular are manifestly incorrect. Take the mortgage on building at \$60,000 at 5 per cent., that costs \$3,000 a year. Insurance, say, \$100; taxes, say, \$600 (this year we understand they are less than \$450); running elevator, \$260, water, say, \$500; fuel, say, \$650; gas, say, \$200, and commission on rents, say, \$200, making a total annual expenditure of \$5,510.

When the building was being erected, the Registrar was provided with a small office in a blacksmith's shop opposite, and halls had to be provided for examination purposes, which were found totally unsuitable and inadequate for examination purposes, yet \$750 was spent for this mediæval accommodation. It was at this time that the public press was resorted to for the purpose of pointing out that the examinations were farcical, and that the examination hall was so crowded that candidates could read each other's answers and compare notes in spite of all supervision; and it is most unfair to say that the accommodation provided in the present building is not worth more than \$750—what it cost per annum for outside unsatisfactory accommodation when the building was being erected.

The present Council apartments, offices, store-room, examination hall and waiting-room are worth at least, and could not be provided for in another building, for less than \$2,000 a year. This is the estimated present value placed upon the Council's accommodation in the new building by a practical real estate agent.

The receipts amount, for the year ending 1892,

according to statement made on page 223 of the Announcement, to \$4,097.34. To this should be added the estimated value of the Council's accommodation, say, \$2,000, or a total of \$6,097.34. Taking this amount of total revenue to be then \$6,097.34, and total expenditure, \$5,510, it leaves a balance of \$587.34.

Upon this estimate the building is now more than paying for its maintenance. Of course it may be argued that \$2,000 is too much to pay for the accommodation of the Council; but if the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, the Medical Parliament of a great profession, is to have a permanent place of abode, a suitable place for the conducting of its business, a less unpretentious place would hardly be in keeping with the times. When the Council occupied the little vestry of the old church, it was the laughing-stock of the profession and the whole community, and was characterized by the profession as a disgrace to medical men.

As to disposing of the property for whatever it would now bring, any reliable real estate dealer would advise against such a course.

Not satisfied with undertaking to misrepresent the case to the profession, the statements made by Dr. Burns, when President, have been garbled with a view to bolstering up a weak brief. See Dr. Burns' letter, page 306.

A NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

The readiness exhibited by the Federal Government in accepting advice from the sanitary experts of the Provinces, and the probability that most of the recommendations made, many of which must necessitate large expenditures of money, will be carried into effect, show that public opinion is in favour of strenuous action to prevent the introduction of epidemic disease into this country. So far this is well; it seems reasonable to think, however, that in sanitary matters affecting the Dominion, the Department of Agriculture would occupy a much stronger position if it were backed by a National Board of Health, composed of representative sanitarians from all the Provinces, who would advise on a course of action to be taken in preventing the inroads of foreign epidemics, and of an executive, who would be responsible for the carrying-out to the letter of whatever plan