

It is also suggested that the Council shall have power to suspend practitioners. It is recommended that if "any practitioner has been charged with any offence that involves guilt or infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect and is acquitted by any court of competent jurisdiction after trial upon the merits his acquittal shall be a bar to any proceedings against such practitioner under this Act upon the ground that he was in fact guilty of the offence of which he has been acquitted or that by reason of the facts and circumstances connected therewith he has been guilty of infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect." There is another suggestion of much importance, namely, that those practitioners who do not pay their annual dues shall lose their right to vote, and shall forfeit their registration. Should these recommendations find a place in a statute there will not be much trouble in future in the collection of the annual dues. The condition that now exists of about half of the registered practitioners only paying their fees should be made to cease, and the foregoing plan would be effective.

The last matter to be considered, so far as the Medical Council is concerned, is the proposed mode of electing the eight representatives of the profession throughout the Province. His Lordship states his views as follows:

"Territorialism is quite unnecessary. If the profession elects at large, the inevitable result is sure to be that the most outstanding practitioners, with here and there the representative of some one or more localities, will be elected. To make locality instead of eminence the qualification for election to represent a learned and scientific profession is reactionary."

There are arguments on both sides of this question, and we shall try to state our objections. In the first place, there are about seven hundred doctors in Toronto, and there is the possibility of combining on a slate, to the exclusion of other places. At all events, it would tend to throw the representation into the control of the large cities. In the next place, there can be both eminence and locality considered. There would always be some eminent members of the profession in all districts, so that it would not be merely a locality qualification. Then, the profession of Ontario differs from an ordinary learned society that meets in convention and elects its officers and executive. The individual doctor votes by ballot from his own home, and would be best able to judge regarding candidates in his own part of the Province. This is at it appears to us.

III.—MEDICAL, SURGICAL AND DENTAL FEES,

Some attention is devoted to the question of fees, and some very valuable suggestions are thrown out. Under the caption of fees, the report makes some remarks upon the topic of unnecessary operations.