

present. The House of Commons in Great Britain refused to take from the schools the right to hold examinations, which should qualify for obtaining the necessary license to practise without their consent.

When this Act came into operation in 1866, it made a wonderful stirring up among the practitioners. Those with foreign degrees were obliged to return to the country of their profession, or enter one of the schools and qualify here. Some presented themselves to the licensing boards, and in many cases secured licenses and returned to practice. The less fortunate, who were practically without qualification, were compelled to complete their medical education. The result was, the number of practitioners in the country was very materially decreased, to the great advantage of both public and profession. But this Act was not found to be satisfactory. Though the standard for graduation was the same for all the schools, yet, each controlling and conducting its own examinations, the attainments of the graduates, as might be expected, were widely different.

Then, again, there were two legalized branches of the profession, the Homeopathic and the Eclectic, whose status was in no way allowed to be effected by this Act, a special clause being introduced for this purpose. Because of these defects, and with a view to remedying them, the Legislature was again approached in 1868, in this instance, not by the schools, but by the Council; and the 1868-69 Act was the result. The features of this Act were in many respects like the '65 Act, but there were some very important advances. The Council was given power to conduct matriculation and also professional examinations.

From this time, the uniform standard of medical examinations became a fixed fact, the same being exacted from all students from all branches of the profession. This provision rendered it necessary that, if the Homeopathic and Eclectic students were to pass the same examination and be subject to the same pains and penalties, these bodies should be represented in the Council and on the Examining Board. And it became necessary that the different medical Acts be consolidated, and the medical profession of Ontario incorporated. This was done, under the name and style of "The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario."

To induce the schools, as well as the Eclectic and Homeopathic branches of the profession, to consent to submit their students to the one common examination, in so far as applicable, it became necessary to so organize the Council and Examining Board that their individual interests would be protected. The Homeopaths and the Eclectics were each allowed five representatives in the Council, and provision was made, on the Board of Examiners, to protect the interests of their students. The schools were each given the right to have one member on the Board of Examiners, in addition to continuing the representative in the Council, and the provision that the curriculum shall receive "the approval of the Governor-in-Council" before becoming obligatory on either schools, universities or students. The profession was well pleased for these considerations in the Council, and on the Examining Board, to have the entire profession brought under one control, and would have been willing to make even greater concessions had it been necessary. These privileges having been accepted in good faith, can they now be honorably withdrawn? To withdraw them, would it not be a breach of faith that would give rise to dissatisfaction, and an agitation that would break the entire compact?

There was no provision in the 1868 Act to allow the College to hold chattel property or real estate for the purposes of the Act; and they were compelled to hire such halls and other premises as they could, for the purpose of conducting the examinations, and to so examine that appliances were not necessary. The halls of Toronto University were secured and some others, but they did not prove satisfactory. When you recollect that the students from three different medical schools in Ontario, as well as students from Quebec and other places, had all to come together in one hall, you will readily understand that it required larger premises than was provided at that time by any of the universities. Examinations were conducted under difficulties, dissatisfaction prevailed both in the Council and among the students. The Board of Examiners was blamed, but the fault was not theirs; it was in the insufficient accommodation provided. This continued from 1868 to 1874, when we have the Council approaching the Legislature again. They pointed