

"eternal vigilance is the price of freedom," and that an apathetic, non-exigent electorate is certain to be served by careless, self-seeking or unfaithful representatives. And such being the case, it has urged you to ensure fidelity on the part of those you send to the Council by closely watching and intelligently criticising all their votes and contentions, so as to be able to call them to a strict account of their stewardship, when, three years hence, their day of reckoning comes around.

The Defence Association is very far from regarding its mission as closed. Much as it has accomplished in the past, it hopes to do yet more in the future. In the recent Council elections it has secured a coign of vantage from which it can henceforth act with tenfold greater effect, and it will never lay down its arms until professional autonomy is reached. Its immediate aim will be to bring about, through its elected members, such reforms in the Medical Council, next month, as can be effected in that body without further legislative assistance. You are earnestly requested to carefully watch the work then done or attempted, and to note the cause or causes of failure where our efforts are not crowned with success. Means will be found to place before you the yeas and nays of every important vote, together with a full record of the whole proceedings, and also to furnish you at the close with a running commentary on the principal arguments and forces brought into play. There may not be stalwarts enough in the new Council to carry every point in favor of the profession, but there will be quite a sufficient number to make the atmosphere of the Council chamber uncongenial to that school of cuckooism which has heretofore prevailed therein, and to expose, if they cannot prevent, infidelity on the part of your representatives. It is proposed to repeat these tactics next year, and the year following—at the same time using the professional press, to the extent of our opportunity, to mould and develop in our ranks a just and dignified *esprit de corps*—in the confident hope that the medical electorate, when next called upon to use the franchise, will have attained, practically, to a unanimity of sentiment. Whether, in the furtherance of the grand end we have in view, we shall feel impelled to approach the legislature next spring, or not until after next election, will very largely depend on the results of the coming session. If our reasonable claims on behalf of our constituents and our honest efforts at economy are then thwarted, mainly by the irresponsible elements in the Council, the profession will probably insist that decisive action shall not be delayed. In view of that contingency, it is most desirable that every medical man in Ontario who is in sympathy with our movement towards clean, econo-