THE CANADIAN MEDICAL

fundamental surgical principles and technique. These are done by men who for the gain of filthy lucre would shorten the regular and necessary steps to a reputable surgical practice. They will not agree to spend several years as an assistant and understudy to a surgeon of experience, but by various underground expedients, solicit cases upon which they may try their prentice hand.

No hospital which values its reputation or which appeals to the public for financial support upon humanitarian grounds, has the slightest right to open its operating rooms to any but tried and experienced surgeons of established and good repute, unless it be in the capacity of assistant only.

We read everywhere articles suggesting that the one great effect of the war will be a new world—a fresh outlook, an upsetting of accepted aspects of truth—a fundamental change. In fact, it will usher in a reign of "peace and good-will to men". What, we are asking, will be its effect upon medicine?

Those of you who have read the second volume of "A Student in Arms" will have been struck by the chapter entitled "The Good Side of Militarism", where Donald Hankey refers to the fact that in pre-war days "self realization" was considered to be a primary duty of every man and woman and the words "Fear God and keep His commandments" amended to read "self realization"—but that as a result of military discipline as practised in the twentieth century by the democracies of the world, we have learned the "unimportance of individuality, realizing that in a national, a world crisis, it counts for nothing"— the good soldier has learned the hardest lesson of all—the lesson of self subordination, to a higher and bigger personality. He has learned to sacrifice everything belonging to him personally, to a cause that is far greater than any personal ambition of his own can be.

In medicine we have seen great things—the death rate of the army from disease reduced far below that of the civil community in the times of peace; camp sanitation; the purification of water; minute attention to the bodily care of marching soldiers; vaccination against typhoid and tetanus. These have achieved amazing results, and honours are pouring in upon those of our profession who have taken the lead in demonstrating what results may be obtained when medical science is utilized to the full. We are, everyone, proud of our own Colonel Nasmith, C.M.G.

Is it not evident that the effect of all this is to exalt the preventive side of medicine; to reveal to the world that syphilis, the care of the child of school age, tuberculosis, etc., etc., may be

12