

medical profession of the county to collect statistics and, incidentally, to assist him materially in making a living, without others being consulted in any way, is a circumstance that requires a fuller explanation than has yet been given.

We believe that no class of citizens in the community is more law-abiding and more honorable in its dealings than the physicians; no other class of persons has ever been compelled to do professional work for the public for nothing, and penalized for neglect; we are tired of legislation of this kind and think it is time it was stopped.

The objections taken to the Act by our counsel, Dr. L. A. Currey, may be summarized as follows:

1. The Act under which these prosecutions were brought are *ultra vires* to provincial legislatures.

2. The gratuitous duty imposed on medical practitioners by said Act is repugnant to natural justice, and is not of such a public nature as authorizes the legislature to impose the same.

3. The above Act requires (a) medical practitioners to become informants on their patients, and renders the latter liable to a penalty; (b) to violate their professional oaths in making a public record of facts which are often of a delicate and confidential character; (c) to perform gratuitous services for which another receives remuneration.

Yours truly,

THOMAS WALKER, M.D.
J. W. DANIEL, M.D.

St. John, N.B., January 2nd, 1904.

News Items

DR. C. M. LANG has been appointed associate coroner in and for the County of Grey.

DR. J. MARTY, of New Hamburg, has been appointed coroner for the County of Waterloo.

DR. A. F. REYNAR of Palgrave, has been appointed associate coroner for the County of Peel.

DR. A. BROWN, of Motherwell, Ont., has gone to Markdale where he has purchased a practice.

THE Canadian Medical Protective Association should have every physician in Canada on its roll of membership.