

Yet we all admit that without such study we cannot hope to keep abreast of medical progress. Is it not in order then to hold out some great inducement, especially to our young men, not only to keep abreast of the times by systematic study, but to forge ahead in research and original work? Membership in a National Academy of Medicine would doubtless prove a great inspiration to work. A Canadian Academy of Medicine would of necessity have its official organ, the chief purpose of which would be to encourage scientific work, and to be the medium through which at least all meritorious Canadian contributions would be accessible to every member. The different branches would be a great source of emulation to each other. For instance, Toronto would be very anxious to have the character of its work compare favorably with that of the other cities throughout the Dominion. Again, this journal going abroad as the official organ of a national institution would on this account have a prestige that would add great weight to its utterances. A physician's name appearing under the title of an article would challenge attention and command respect. With such a journal going into the medical libraries of the world Canadian physicians would have only themselves to blame if Canadian medicine, in its literature and practice, did not receive recognition. Is there not latent energy enough in our ranks to-day, as well as in the new material coming into our medical colleges, to give to Canadian medicine a national status? Can we not aspire to have physicians in the British Isles and in the United States say, "Well, in Canada they teach and do so and so"? The genius of our people has given national traits to our methods in legislation, finance, commerce, industry, transportation, agriculture, education, etc.; is it too much to ask the physicians of Canada to give a national trait to Canadian medicine in its literature and practice? Up to the present time Canadian medicine has occupied much the same status as that of the so-called semi-ready clothing establishments. The more ambitious of our graduates, like Osler and many others, have had to go abroad to receive recognition. A profession, like a bank, cannot stand too great a drain on its resources. Have we not lost about enough of our best men? What could a local organization, such as a Toronto Academy of Medicine, do to induce ambitious young men to give their best work to the building up of a high professional status in their own country? A union of the different medical societies in Toronto might serve the local interests of the physicians in Toronto, but such a union could have no national significance. It could make no appeal to the profession at large, for it would not have an official organ, and there would be no one, or very few, from outside in its membership. As the Toronto branch of a Canadian Academy of Medicine it would still have every advantage that could come of a union of the different