

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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IT falls to my lot as President of the Ontario Medical Association to deliver the annual address, and before attempting to discuss some of the questions which are before our profession to-day, I desire first of all to extend to you my sincere thanks for the honor which was conferred upon me, and in the second place to thank the gentlemen of the executive and of the various committees for their willingness to assist in carrying on the work of the Association. In particular, I wish to thank the members of the Committee on Legislation, and especially the secretary, Dr. John Ferguson, to whose untiring efforts the success of our Report on Medical Education was in a large measure due. To those gentlemen who have come from overseas, and from the Republic to the south, to assist in our programme, we extend our warmest greeting and gladly welcome them to our convention. May we hope that their presence with us symbolizes that unity which should exist among the various branches of the Anglo-Saxon race.

You have been called together to take part in the thirty-ninth annual meeting of this Association, and as the executive head it gives me great pleasure to-night to welcome you all and to hope that in the varied programme which will be presented each one may find something to interest and to instruct, so that on your return to your several duties you may carry with you something helpful in solving the daily problems which present themselves and that you may retain many pleasant memories of the Association with your friends of former days.

We are permitted to meet this year under conditions quite different from those prevailing during the past four years and a half. Since our last peace meeting in 1914, great changes have been wrought in the world. Little did any of us believe when we read of the murder of the Austrian Archduke and Duchess at Sarajevo that this was to be the beginning of a struggle that would ultimately involve, as active participants, nearly all the countries of the world and that nations whose social structure was looked upon as reasonably secure, and others who prided themselves in having evolved a system of government and a masterly efficiency second to none in the world, should be so rent asunder that life and property, the church, art and all the refinements which we in Anglo-Saxon lands hold so dear should be trampled in the dust by a proletariat made mad by the lust of power and possession. New nations with new forms of government have sprung into existence throughout middle and eastern