

financial arrangements, as claimed, surely those grievances can be remedied without recourse to such drastic measures as separation. The whole question will be before you this afternoon for discussion. Let wise and sane counsel prevail. If permitted to make a suggestion I would suggest that prudent representatives from both associations be appointed, that they meet, adjust their differences, make a new agreement if deemed wise, and report to their several associations for approval at the first possible opportunity. But whatever you do, don't to-day approve of a motion of separation. Ever remember that the friends of the one association are the friends of the other.

By again referring to your programme you will see that a resolution will be submitted to you re Workman's Compensation Bill. At the recent session of the Provincial Legislature an Act was passed entitled "Laws relating to the liability of employers to make compensation to their employees." You are all familiar with the agitation which this proposed legislation caused amongst medical men. The members of the Medical Council and of the Academy of Medicine of Toronto were especially energetic in their opposition to the passing of the bill; we take this opportunity of thanking the members of these two societies for the opposition they put up, for the campaign of instruction as to the nature of the bill which they carried on, for the pressure they brought to bear upon the Government by argument and by appeal in order to secure a proper recognition of the rights of the medical man and a proper guarantee of remuneration for services performed.

No one has any fault to find that such an Act should be on the statute books. There was an Act somewhat similar on the statute books before, viz., "The Employers' Compensation Act," but in it the medical or surgical expenses became an important part of the claimant's account for his injuries, whereas in the new Act no provision is made for the medical or surgical expenses. The basic principle of the whole Act is that neither the injured, nor his friends, nor the municipality shall bear the expenses due to the injury, and yet *mirabile dictu*, the first thing the injured is called upon to do is to contract an expense for medical or surgical aid. To the one that has been injured some things can be dispensed with, some things are luxuries, but the prompt and skilful attention of one or more members of the medical profession is a necessity, a first and absolute necessity; and yet no provision is made for these who by their presence may save life or limb, they are, however, left liable as before for suits for malpractice. This omission to provide medical help for the injured is the weak spot of the Act, and if the weak spot be not strengthened the whole Act may prove unworkable.

The members of the Medical Council and of the Academy of