

birth of our officially organized institution. We are just now seven years old, and, though the silver streaks of advancing years are showing upon the heads, and the contemporary lines of care upon the features of many present, I sincerely hope not one of us has yet lost the retrospective interest attached to and associated with the arrival of the annual birthday period.

During the year 1899 a series of meetings of the Vancouver and the New Westminster medical societies was held to discuss the question of the formation of a provincial medical association. On January 18, 1900, the Victoria Medical Society invited delegates from Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo to a dinner, at which the desirability of such an association was unanimously recognized. The next day a meeting was held in the Parliament buildings, in the rooms of the Hon. the President of the Council, at which Hon. Dr. McKechnie, of Nanaimo; Drs. Helmcken, Fagan and Fraser, Victoria; Dr. Walker, of New Westminster, and Drs. Weld and Pearson, of Vancouver, were present. The British Columbia Medical Association was inaugurated, officers were elected, and in August of the same year the first meeting took place in Vancouver.

The dangers besetting the infantile and childhood period of medical societies in general are more or less familiar to the profession, and the vicissitudes and precarious existence of our British Columbia societies may even yet be within the memory of some present. Without further irksome and wearying recital of historical data, we may congratulate the association upon its having passed the most dangerous period of life, survived many critical experiences, and that now it might be regarded as almost able "to run alone." Many of us seem to consider such an organization really able to run itself, but we only require a moment's serious thought to realize that it needs support. United effort and allegiance to the true principles of our ancient and noble profession will instil such vitality that the objects and purposes of the association will become more apparent to each member, and real benefit be bestowed upon the profession and general public.

So much of sterling value, in information, suggestion and precept is contained within the small compass of the constitution, by-laws and code of ethics of the British Columbia Medical Association, that I now take the liberty to suggest that steps be taken to place a copy in the possession of every member of the profession in the province, and I earnestly hope careful perusal of the modest pamphlet may be granted.

This train of thought has temporarily drawn me beyond