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EDITORIAL

A FINAL WORD TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

On many occasions we have directed the attention of our readers to the importance of the coming medical legislation; and urged upon them the need that all should take a keen interest in this vital question. We shall take the liberty of again stating some of the essential features of the situation as revealed by a study of the Report on Medical Education.

1. Physical Therapy. The Commissioner found reasons during his study of medical education for urging that more attention be given to physical therapy than had been done in the past. In this view we concur. It would enable the medical practitioners in the future to control this phase of treatment more thoroughly than in the past, and would supplant the parasitic practitioners who style themselves osteopaths, chiropractors, and manotherapists. Under the proposed system of medical education there would be no place for these.

2. Christian Science. As a system of treatment Christian science has no justification for its existence. It boldly disclaims any knowledge of disease, and goes the length stating that such knowledge would be detrimental to it. With most of what the Commissioner states we agree, but dissent from his recommendation that this cult must obtain from the Provincial Board of Health a certificate of a knowledge of contagious diseases before any of them could heal cases. This we think is wrong, as some of this body might acquire such knowledge as would enable them to recognize the diseases that must be reported, and, thereafter, go into general practice. There should be no short cuts.

3. Osteopathy. There is one feature of the report that we think is open to objection. The Commissioner recommends that the osteopaths in practice on 30th June, 1913, be allowed to continue under certain conditions. We hold that this should not be done. They are not qualified, and came as squatters under the privilege of a very foolish judgment. They have no vested rights. To grant them the right to continue in practice we think is unfair to the people and the medical profession, and