

upon with suspicion. For the most part, the Boards are composed of men who are not teachers, and who, consequently, are not in a position to judge of the needs of students. Many of them argue in this way: the more lectures the longer the courses, the fewer men there will be to graduate. I am sure that if here in McGill we had our own way in these matters it would not be long before these abuses would be swept away, as far as we are concerned. We are hoping for better things, and much depends on our graduates. If, after leaving us, they would move collectively in this matter, I am sure the desired changes would soon come about. Come sooner or later they must.

It is far from creditable to the medical men of this country that such a state of affairs should be in existence. When we consider how much there is to know in medical science, and, after all, how little any one man can know, be his talents and industry of the highest order, it is surely our bounden duty to see that at any rate no obstacles are placed in the way of the student. It has recently been computed that upwards of 25,000 original medical articles are published yearly; this is about the rate of seventy articles a day, being more matter than ten ordinary men can even read, let alone digest. This will give you an idea of the enormous activity in the medical world, and yet you are supposed to know almost everything when you graduate. At the great congress which met in Washington two weeks ago, no less than fourteen special medical associations were represented. So specialized was the work in many of these sections, that the work of one section was frequently unknown ground to the members of another section. An attempt was made to have general meetings, where all might be interested. This proved a great success as far as the general interest that it excited, but I question very much whether, after all, there was an intelligent following by many, of the subjects discussed. It is hard to conceive how the laryngologists, or the gynæcologists, or the orthopædists, or the genito-urinary surgeons could intelligently follow the discussions on cerebral localizations. To many of them the discussion must have been about as intelligent as it would be to a well educated laymen.