

Dr. Spence followed, explaining why he needed no apology for being a candidate, saying that he was in favor of interprovincial registration and against the Victorian Order of Nurses. That though the result of the counting of the ballots in the last election did not show it, he considered that he had the greatest number of ballots cast for him, that he had the words of reliable men to that effect. He read a lengthy letter from his legal adviser, referring to the subject, the gist of which was that he (Dr. Spence) was advised not to take action in the matter.

Dr. R. B. Orr, the returning officer in the last election, rose and protested against insinuations being made which reflected upon his honor. He pointed out that the ballots which Dr. Spence claimed were post-marked late and so could not be counted, and that as they were returned to the registrar unopened he had no way of knowing who they were for.

Dr. McMahon moved that a committee be appointed by this Association to investigate the whole matter and report upon it.

Dr. Macdonald pointed out that this Association has now no authority to deal with the matter. That the council had allowed (according to the law upon the subject) the thirty days' time to elapse before declaring the place vacant. During that time Dr. Spence or anyone had the right to secure from the County Judge an order for a recount and close scrutiny of the ballots. No one had asked for such proceeding. It was remarked by some of the members that it is easier to make an insinuation than to make a direct charge.

TAPPING THE PERICARDIUM.—Dr. H. A. Hare, discusses, in a scholarly paper, the danger of injury to the heart in the tapping of the pericardium for the relief of pericardial effusion. The conclusion arrived at is that the lethal result of a heart wound largely depends upon the rapidity with which a hemostatic clot is formed in the opening, and that the injury of the heart muscle in itself is rarely the cause of death. Only when the co-ordinating centres are injured or there is profound hæmorrhage into the pericardial sac, which produces cardiac failure by pressure, does death occur, unless the wound is so large as to permit the blood to escape externally or into the thoracic cavity. The opening made by a small aspirating cannula is never large enough to produce hæmorrhage from the ventricle. — *Therap. Gazette*.