

The President in the chair.

The Registrar called the roll. All were present except Sir James Grant.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Communications were read from W. O'Connor, M.A., M.D., and M. Emlree, and referred to the Education Committee; and from Messrs. Eastbourne and Lighbourn, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Dr. Thorburn moved, seconded by Dr. Moore, that inasmuch as the foot note on page 12 of the annual announcement of 1879-80 has been inoperative for thirteen years, it is declared by this Council now as rescinded, in order that no doubts may remain in reference to it.

Dr. BERGIN— I would like to ask before rescinding that order, if it is retained as a rule of the Council whether it will affect any teacher anywhere.

Dr. THORBURN— It will affect and has affected. It has been a dead letter inasmuch as we have been accepting certificates from McGill, and there are numbers of certificates from the United States and from other countries which we have been accepting where the teacher has not been a registered practitioner in Ontario. The schools here, to a certain extent, have been in the same position. It would place us in a very awkward position if we refused to accept such certificates: for instance, it would rule out all outside provinces and countries. I think it is a bad principle to have a law that you do not or cannot enforce.

The PRESIDENT— That is not our law now. We are governed by the regulations in our last announcement.

Dr. THORBURN— Is it rescinded?

The PRESIDENT— It is practically rescinded.

Dr. THORBURN— I would like to move that it be rescinded, because there is some doubt existing in the mind of our Registrar: for instance, he didn't know how to act in this matter; it was for that purpose I wanted a decision of the Council in the matter. I have been talking it over with my friend Dr. Moore and others, and we thought the best way to settle the matter would be by a vote of the Council.

Dr. BERGIN— If we have not been acting on it for ten or twelve years, and have been accepting

these certificates, we had better set ourselves right.

Dr. THORBURN— I think we ought not to have a law that we do not enforce.

Dr. BRAY— Isn't that already rescinded? Does not the announcement for each year rescind the announcement of the past year?

The PRESIDENT— That is what I should hold myself.

Dr. THORBURN— It is as well not to have anything on our statutes that is liable to future discussion.

Dr. MOORE— There can be no harm in voting on it anyway.

Dr. BRAY— Before that is put to a vote I think it should be thoroughly understood what it means, and what it is intended to cover: according to that, any man can teach in any of our schools whether he is a practitioner or not, and I do not think that is the intention of the Act. While I am not opposed principally to that, I think there would be an injustice done to the schools in Ontario if that was carried out: still at the same time I don't think you want it to go to the profession that anybody can teach in a school, whether they know anything about medicine or not: and I think myself that the words "registered practitioner" should not be there, but there might be something inserted to the effect, that the man should have a degree from some recognized university. The law is indefinite as it is now: we can't compel anybody in the United States, in the University of Michigan or elsewhere, or even in McGill, to come here and register before acting as a teacher, and it is imperative as far as that goes, but we can say that every man who teaches shall have a degree in medicine from some recognized university.

Dr. BERGIN— Yes.

Dr. MOORE— No. This has been a dead letter: and it is simply brought forward now to remove a doubt that existed in the mind of the Registrar, and probably one or two others. It has been inoperative for thirteen years. It is a measure that we never could make operative, and quite properly has it remained inoperative and ineffective, and it is only to just clear up the doubt that we propose the motion that is now before you.

Dr. BERGIN— It strikes me at this moment, Mr. President, there is a case where I can well under-