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EDITORIAL

DR. T. G. RODDICK.

No one medical man in Canada has done more for the unification of the medical profession of this country than Dr. Roddick. Many can recall the futile efforts and discussions that took place in an effort to secure some measure of reciprocity between the several provinces. These efforts brought forth but little visible fruit, and yet they were educative.

Dr. T. G. Roddick represented one of the Montreal seats in the House of Commons. He was on the opposition side of the House, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier was Premier. When Dr. Roddick introduced his bill Sir Wilfrid extended to it his hearty co-operation and made an earnest appeal to the House to support the measure. The Act became law in 1902. There were many difficulties still to be met. There was a clause in the bill that each province must approve of it, and here came in the trouble.

There arose many divergent views as to the working of the Act, and therefore the provincial consents were not forthcoming. It was at this juncture that Dr. Roddick did his best work. For a number of years he travelled from coast to coast attending medical conventions and urging upon the members of the profession to come to an understanding. He urged colleges to set forth their difficulties with the Act in order that these might be met. In due course, all the difficulties were got out of the way and a new bill was drawn up that was acceptable to all interests and each province. This bill was placed in the hands of Dr. Black, of Hants, N.S., who carried it through the House three years ago. It will be remembered that Dr. Roddick was not a member of Parliament at that period.

The several provinces have accepted the terms of the Canada Medical Act, and so it is the law. In a short time the delegates from the provinces shall meet and organize the Dominion Medical Council.