

It is difficult for the practising physician to learn about vitamin E through meetings of the county medical societies. We have appeared before just one, the Lambton County Society meeting in Sarnia. When this Society sent in the usual request for a \$10.00 subsidy for visiting speakers to the Ontario Medical Association, its Secretary was told by the Secretary of the Association that they disapproved of the county society hearing the Shutes and that this grant would not be forthcoming. The Secretary of the Lambton County Society asked that this denial be put in writing and intimated that the Shutes would be asked to appear in any case. The grant was promptly forthcoming, but no letter. Strangely enough in the last six and a half years we have been asked by no other county societies to address them and I want to remind you again that in the years preceding 1946 I had addressed many such societies.

The practising physician labours under another difficulty in this regard. As you know, we were invited to discuss our discovery and the way in which it was handled, before the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons on November 13, 1947. I have here a copy of the material which was read before that meeting. This happens to be the actual reading copy used. You will notice that the names of the journals where we intended to publish our articles were crossed out. We were afraid that if any present saw the names of those journals, there might be some difficulty about securing publication. I am sure you will think that this was a ridiculous and needless precaution. May I remind you that we had an article accepted for publication by the British Medical Journal in December, 1947, but I was foolish enough to mention this at a small medical meeting in Montreal in 1948 and that article has never been printed. I would once have thought that this was something that could not happen, but I am no longer so naive.

To revert to the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons. This is a body whose powers concern conditions of the legal practice of Medicine in this province, and nothing else. It has no scientific standing other than that. It has no machinery for passing upon discoveries. Therefore, it has no right to make any pronouncement about medical discoveries. Nevertheless it proceeded to condemn ours unreservedly in its official Bulletin and in a release to the press and radio. We have long pressed in writing for its official apology for acting in this remarkable way but have never received it to date. We published a comment on this in the British Lancet, pointing out that in its action the College had exceeded its powers. If we had been wrong, don't think for a moment, gentlemen, that the College would have forgotten to remind us of it. Finally, in this respect, may I say that the Canadian Medical Association has no research facilities, cannot properly pass judgment on any discovery, and is purely a group of practitioners organized to hold medical meetings and to represent the Profession before the public, before the government, etc. Its opinion upon any research is no more valuable than that of any individual medical man. In fact, it may not be nearly as good.

This impasse is all the more remarkable in Canada since more than 120 medical papers have now appeared throughout the world supporting our original contentions. These will be presented in abstract form in the next issue of our Medical Journal, the summary copies of which will go to doctors and leading citizens in this country in the next two weeks. One of these supporting articles, for instance, appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association under the name of Professor Ochsner.

That our articles were rejected by Canadian Journals is even more remarkable in the light of the fact that they have since appeared in the official organ of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons, and in many other of the leading journals in the English language.