

Correspondence.

DR. SANGSTER'S VIEWS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.

Dr. J. H. Sangster, of Port Perry, has sent a circular letter to the medical electors of Division No. 12. We extract from it the following statement of his views on certain questions now before the electorate:

(1) The Ontario Medical Act contains a number of provisions that have been conceived in the interests of the profession, and some that, from the same standpoint, call for repeal. As soon as such amendments as the experience of the past, and a general consensus of professional opinion, show to be necessary shall have been secured, the Act, in its essential features, should, I think, be carefully preserved.

(2) The Medical Council must be retained, and, by every possible means, strengthened, as a barrier against mendacious quackery and the too easy access of new men to the profession. While I am in favor of very materially modifying its composition so as to make it strictly elective and representative, and, at the same time, less unwieldy in bulk and less costly in maintenance, I would diligently oppose anything being done to lessen its usefulness, or to hamper it in its action as our executive. I would remodel it—not to destroy, but to perfect, and to establish it on a just and more enduring basis. The territorial representation has been increased from twelve to seventeen, not because it was thought desirable to enlarge the council as a whole, but because, owing to the present divergence of opinion among medical men, that was found to be the only practicable mode of securing to the profession a controlling voice in the management of its own affairs. As soon as practitioners, generally, recognize the fact that a large measure of professional abasement is involved in their tame submission to the unwarrantable dictation and interference of school appointees, an effective remedy will be found within their easy reach, and, thereafter, a homogeneous council of ten or twelve members will prove amply sufficient for our protection and government.