

bute in order that its provisions may be properly administered. A direct tax would not be popular in the present temper of the people. The only alternative, then, is the ordinary revenues of the state. How are we to secure legislation to this end? By enlisting public sympathy and co-operation.

A word or two regarding the work of the Provincial Medical Board. This Board is doing good work in guarding our ranks against inferior recruits, and in protecting the public against irregulars. But their hands are tied, first, for want of funds; secondly, for want of public sympathy. The public charge that the crusade of the regulars against quacks and the vendors of nostrums is begotten of selfish motives. We repudiate this charge. Every medical man knows and the public ought to know that if these charlatans were left unmolested, the carnage that would follow would add materially to the practice of those that are fighting to suppress them. We are fighting them, not because they interfere with our business, but because they are a menace to public health and life; not because we want to protect the profession, but because we want to protect the people. We want the sympathy and support of the people in our laudable efforts to rid our country of this pestilence. For while public sympathy is with those who defy the law it will be impossible to get evidence to convict the law breaker. Every physician and every layman in my hearing can testify to numerous instances of irreparable loss of health, and some instances of loss of life clearly traceable to the gross ignorance or culpable presumption of those sharks who go about seeking whom they may devour.

The Provincial Medical Board are doing what they can to exterminate these enemies of the public health, but they want funds to prosecute and evidence to convict. These prosecutions are for the public good. The public should encourage our efforts and by sympathetic co-operation help to put down fraud and deception.

The medical man has much to contend with in his efforts to promote public good. Among these difficulties there is none more discouraging than lack of public sympathy. But in the midst of our discouragements we are not without hope that with an enlightened public sentiment on our side, and a united medical profession to work, our efforts will ultimately be crowned with success. And then with antiseptics and antitoxins and sanitation and sanatoria and quarantine laws and well paid officers to administer them, there shall be universal health and men shall die only because they will be too old to live.