

apart from this another objection of a more fundamental character exists, inasmuch as the tendency of any system of reciprocity would be to reduce the average standard of medical education; because the lowest requirements, and the weakest colleges in the Dominion would be most popular. It would thus tend to retard rather than advance medical education and should be opposed by all of those who have the interests of medical education at heart. It is true that reciprocal relations would appease the practitioner and would relieve the profession of many of the grievances it suffers at present, but it would not relieve the teaching bodies nor aid them in keeping abreast of the advance of modern medical education, nor would it give our graduates the benefit of British enregistration.

A central examining licensing board, with qualifications as high, if not higher than those required by any province, under the control of the best medical teachers of the Dominion, would satisfy the demands of the student, the practitioner and the medical schools, and would bring about recognition of our licence through the British Empire. Difficulties certainly exist in carrying this idea into effect, some of which have been suggested by previous speakers and among which should not be forgotten the necessity of a double set of examiners for the requirements of French as well as English applicants and with a consequent doubling of the cost of the examining body. This can scarcely be done with the fees obtained from candidates alone, and even if the federal government were required to pay a portion of the expenses they would only be doing what is done among many of the European countries where the cost of a medical education is largely borne by the state.

The speaker concluded by stating that he felt sure that the principle of the establishment of a central licensing body of the whole Dominion would meet with the unanimous approval of the profession and would receive little or no opposition in its passage through the legislature.

Dr. F. J. SHEPHERD joined with the other speakers in wishing the scheme success and said that if Dr. Roddick succeeded in obtaining Dominion Registration for the medical men we would all forgive him for having gone into politics. Until he had heard Dr. Roddick's address he was to a great extent unaware of the difficulties in the way, which seemed to him almost insuperable. He should like to ask why the provinces controlled professional education. The act evidently only referred to general education. If he was not mistaken, we already have a Dominion Act by which surveyors can be registered for the whole country, the provincial boards still remaining in force. If for surveyors, why not for the medical profession? The weak point about Dr. Roddick's scheme seemed to be the doubt of getting it accepted in Great Britain, for if a man with a Dominion Registration could not practice in his own country it was not likely Great Britain would allow him to