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EDITORIAL.

THE TORONTO HOSPITALS AND THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER.

Sometime prior to the vote in Toronto on the by-law providing \$200,000 in sums of \$50,000 to St. Michael's, Grace, and the Western Hospitals, and the Home for Incurables, the following letter appeared in the newspapers of Toronto:—

“DEAR DOCTOR,—On January 1st, 1909, the property owners of Toronto will vote on a by-law to give \$50,000 to each of the following hospitals: The Western, Grace, St. Michael's, and the Home for Incurables—\$200,000 in all.

“Now each of those hospitals is at present a close corporation, with certain restrictions as to the physicians who shall attend patients therein.

“Before the above grants are made this association believes these restrictions should be removed or, at least, modified in so far as to permit each patient who pays public ward rates, or more, the privilege of being attended by his own physician or surgeon, and that the said medical man should have the same hospital facilities as a member of the staff.

“A meeting will be held to discuss this and other matters of interest to the society, in the Central Y. M. C. A. Hall, corner of Yonge and McGill Streets, on Friday evening, December 4th, at 8 p.m.

“To you a cordial invitation is extended to be present, and to take part in the discussion.

(Signed) “W. S. GRIMSHAW,”
Secretary.

This letter was sent to the Press in the interests of the unattached physicians and surgeons, who formed themselves into an association.

The statement that the four institutions named are “close corporations” is entirely incorrect. They are not close corporations but public institutions. They are managed by a body of responsible gentlemen who make no money out of these hospitals, but on the contrary give