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EDITORIAL

MEDICAL RECIPROCITY WITH BRITAIN.

“By a practically unanimous vote the Ontario Medical Council recently agreed on the motion of Dr. A. T. Emmerson, Goderich, Ont., to affirm the principle of reciprocity between Britain and Ontario on the basis of the medical registers of Ontario and the medical registers of Great Britain and Ireland.”

Thus on 22nd December, 1914, what we have long contended for became an accomplished fact. A doctor holding a qualification to practise in Britain may now register in Ontario, and vice versa. It must be taken for granted that the General Medical Council in Britain is jealous of the standard of the medical practitioners there, and will see to it that they are competent, so far as the tests of written and practical examinations can determine. It is safe to assume that any medical men who come from Britain to practise in Ontario will be able to give a good account of themselves.

In like manner, the standard in Ontario for many years has been a high one. We have stood by the Ontario Medical Council at all times in every legitimate effort to raise the tests that had to be passed to secure a license to practise. Britain need have no misgivings in registering any one holding an Ontario qualification.

Thus Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario are in line on this very important matter. The four Western Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia have yet to join with their sister provinces. It is to be hoped that the day will not be long postponed when they will cast in their lot with the majority. The vision for the future is an Empire-wide profession.

In Canada, after a long and arduous struggle we have attained to the goal of a common medical standard and have now a Dominion Medical Council; and already the good results are abundantly in evidence. But the still larger outlook is that of such a standard for all parts of the Empire as would be acceptable in all other parts. Let the time soon cease when the words of Shylock will be true: