

only one who can, but one who does perform with success all the operations known to surgery.

This paper has perhaps trespassed too much on your time, but one more point should be touched on, namely, the difficulties met by the experts in preventive medicine.

In days gone by the greatness of a country was gauged by its wars and their results. When the history of our country is written, its greatness will be judged by the results obtained in the development of ideas and agencies which look to the preservation of health and life rather than their destruction.

Contradictory as it may seem of this statement, it may be remarked that the people as a whole, instead of co-operating in matters and movements tending towards the preservation and development of public health, in reality oppose them. This may be explained in a measure by the spirit which dominates in all communities having a representative form of Government, a tendency to criticise and oppose all public measures up to a certain stage. The result in the end is, of course, to obtain the best form of law, although in the process of development, injury is being done and lives are being lost. Examples of this are seen in the opposition of a section of the Western public to compulsory vaccination; to the use of antitoxine in diphtheria; to the reporting to the Medical Health Officer of infectious or contagious diseases. But in these, as in all measures that make for the public good, time, patience, firmness and tact, combined with the beneficial results obtained, are the greatest educators. It takes time to educate, and it is for medical reformers to be patient but unceasing in their efforts.