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## *Original Contributions.*

### A PLEA FOR A PROVINCIAL MINISTER OF HEALTH.\*

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*Introductory.*—This paper has been prepared at the request of the committee; it simply gives personal opinions upon the subject, and in no way are they to be construed as expressing those of my colleagues on the Provincial Board of Health or reflecting the opinions of any with whom I am officially associated.

*Mr. President and Gentlemen,*—It is the prerogative of statesmen to guide the national machine, and for this purpose the government of the province is controlled by a premier, who is president of the council, and an executive council of seven members, to each one of whom is delegated the special control of a particular class of official work, which forms a department. Thus we have the following seven divisions in this province: (a) Department of Attorney-General, (b) Department of Provincial Secretary, (c) Department of Treasurer, (d) Department of Crown Lands (now Lands and Mines), (e) Department of Agriculture, (f) Department of Public Works, and (g) Department of Education—an addition of three since Confederation, viz., President of Council (Premier), Public Works and Education. That these divisions of the work of government are justified, nearly all are convinced; the several ministers are essential for the efficient carrying on of the government of a prosperous and developing province, and the additional portfolios thus far made in the Provincial Cabinet have been created to meet the increased needs

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\*Read before the Ontario Medical Association, Toronto, June, 1905.