

The Canada Lancet

VOL. XLIV.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1911

No. 8

EDITORIAL.

CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE IN CANADA.

That there are many conditions to be found in the various provinces of the Dominion that are irksome, and, indeed, very unjust, there can be no doubt. Each province fixes its own standard for those who wish to practise medicine in it. This has led to a variety of standards and methods of graduation.

We have always taken the position that, so far as medical practice is concerned, Canada should be one and an undivided country. We published the Roddick bill as soon as it had received the royal assent, in 1902, and on many occasions we have urged that all the provinces fall into line. We have some time ago published in our pages the proposed amendments to the Canada Medical Act that are before the Federal Parliament. We have often urged that all opposition be dropped in order that these amendments may become law.

Quite recently serious opposition arose on the part of the medical men of Saskatchewan. They objected to the universities having representation on the Dominion Medical Council. On this point we think that such representation would be a good thing. These representatives would be men who would have knowledge on the matter of teaching and the formation of a curriculum of study. The teaching bodies are represented on the General Medical Council of Great Britain. We think they should have representation in this country.

The difficulty of the Western Provinces regarding university representation has been overcome by the special committee of the Commons dealing with the bill. The committee has amended the bill by providing that two of the three members of the council to be appointed by the Governor-General-in-Council shall be chosen from Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, in which provinces there are, as yet, no medical college.

There is no medical college in either New Brunswick or Prince Edward Island. As New Brunswick is the largest of these, we think the third Government member should be chosen from it. The Provinces of Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia will have college representations, as well as provincial ones.