THE CANADA LANCET

VOL. XXXVI.

FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 6.

EDITORIAL.

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL CURRICULUM.

N our last issue we had something to say on the subject of the entrance standard; and then took the position that the Council should adopt the pass matriculation with the honor subjects in English and Latin, and suggested that of the present optional subjects, the pass Greek might be made obligatory. It was also stated that the Council could well afford to accept the first year's Arts standing in a recognized university, as this would encourage a still further general education and culture on the part of the students. We now purpose saying a few words on the professional part of the Council curriculum. In doing so, we disclaim any fault-finding spirit. On the contrary, we recognize the great services which the Medical Council has rendered to both medical education and the medical profession. In the first place, the Council holds three examinations. The primary examination is written and oral, and takes place at the end of the second winter session on the following subjects: (a) anatomy; (b) physiology and histology; (c) chemistry (theoretical and practical) and, (d) materia medica and pharmacy. Now, we think this is not a good division of the work. To allow the first year to pass without an examination on the work of the session is to encourage a tendency to cram in the second session.

The second examination is called the intermediate, and is held at the end of the fourth session on the following branches:—(a) medical, surgical and topographical anatomy; (b) principles and practice of medicine; (c) general pathology and bacteriology; (d) surgery, other than operative; (e) surgery, operative; (f) midwifery, other than operative; (g) midwifery, operative; (h) medical jurisprudence, including toxicology and mental diseases; (h) sanitary science; (h) diseases of children; (h) diseases of women; and, (h) therapeutics. This examination, like the primary, is both written and oral. It is also open to the same criticism of leaving a year, the third session, without an examination, giving rise to careless work on the one hand and to cramming on the other. It is true, the Council requires the students to furnish a certificate of having

6