

The medical council has the power to regulate the course of study adopted by the teaching colleges, and it does exercise this power by laying down the outline of study which a student must follow. In this way a certain amount of uniformity is secured among the many colleges and universities.

There are ten universities in England, four in Scotland, and three in Ireland which grant medical degrees. In addition to these there are the licensing bodies, such as the College of Surgeons and Physicians of London, those of Edinburgh, the physicians and surgeons of Glasgow, and that for Ireland. The tendency in Britain is more and more in the direction of securing a university degree.

The fees amount to from \$500 to \$750 to secure a degree or diploma. In addition to this there are the cost of living, books, instruments, etc. The average time taken to qualify is virtually seven years. Only 14 per cent. qualify in the minimum time of five years. If \$500 be followed for ordinary expenses for each of the seven years and the fees then added on, the cost of a qualification in Britain would come to about \$4,000 or \$5,000.

In England and Wales, in 1882, there were a population of 26,334,943 and 15,383 qualified medical practitioners. This gives 1,710 persons on the average to each practitioner. In 1908, the population was 35,348,780 and the practitioners 25,092, or an average of 1,407 persons per doctor. There is also on the average less sickness per 1,000 owing to preventive measures. It thus becomes quite apparent that there is a steady tendency to an increase in the number of practitioners for the amount of work to be done. There is an increase in the number of six penny doctors, and many now receive 2s. 6d. for visit and medicine who formerly received 5s. Those in Scotland and Ireland suffer in the same way. The general tendency is towards a decline in the average income of the doctor. In France this has become so serious that several societies have sent out advice against entering the medical profession. This is also in contemplation by the British Medical Association.

In Canada and the United States the same tendencies are present and making for the ends, namely, lengthening of the college course, increase in its cost, increase in the number of doctors, and lowering of the general income of those in practice.

OPPOSING LADY ABERDEEN'S WORK FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

One of the most remarkable episodes in the history of the efforts that are being put forth by well informed and well intentioned persons occurred in Dublin a short time ago. It came up in South Dublin Board of Guardians by whom the following resolution was carried, twenty-three voting for it and eleven against :