

must ever be, the study of anatomy, physiology, pathology and clinics. The laboratory has its place; but its place is that of research, or the finding of paths for the medical profession. This is not, however, for the student. The time of the student should not be taxed too heavily with the study of bacteriology and pathological chemistry. It is known and must be admitted that a doctor may be well qualified to treat a case of typhoid fever without a study of the bacillus typhosus, or to remove the appendix without long training in the various cocci.

Then it is proposed to lay down a rule whereby any one over thirty years of age may find much difficulty in entering upon the study of medicine. We agree with the view that it is not wise for persons of such age to take up the study of medicine, but this is advice and should remain at this stage. The University is a provincial institution, and receives large sums of money from the Province, it would therefore be a question whether the university could refuse admittance to any citizen of the province because he or she is over thirty years of age. If the attempt should be, the practice would soon reach the political arena and become an apple of discord on the floor of the legislative assembly.

PROLONGED FASTING.

From time to time cases of prolonged fasting have been reported. In some of these there is an element of doubt as to the genuineness of the fasting, a feeling prevailing that some form of nourishment had been taken. But in the midst of all this confusion there are instances of real abstention from material nourishments over long periods.

Many years ago we read an account given by the late Sir W. T. Gairdner, of a young woman who fasted for forty-two days in a state of trance.

Dr. Tanner fasted forty-one days in Koster and Bial's hotel in New York. Every precaution was taken to make it certain that he was not receiving any food or nutritive liquids. He drank water freely. He came through the ordeal well.

Richard Tansel, of North Dakota, fasted for seventy-eight days, with the object of reducing his body weight. He succeeded in doing so from 385 pounds to normal. He lived.

Ann Moor, of Tutbury, England, went on fast to cure some disease on November 4th, 1806, and fasted till July, 1809. The last solid food she took in small quantity was in January, 1807. She died of her illness. Dr. Robert Taylor, a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, gave a very full account of her case.