

Dominion Medical Monthly

And Ontario Medical Journal

Vol. XLVII.

TORONTO, JULY, 1916

No. 1

Original Articles

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

BY H. B. ANDERSON, M.D.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Ontario Medical Association, it is the duty of the President to address the annual meeting, setting forth the condition of the profession in the province. The difficulty confronting one at this time is not to find topics suitable for discussion, but rather to select from among the multitude of important matters which suggest themselves those of most immediate and pressing interest, and attempt to consider them with due regard to their relative importance. While I deeply esteem the honor of having been elected to the presidency of the Association, one cannot but appreciate the difficulty of doing justice to the position, or of rising to the responsibilities and opportunities of so critical an occasion in our national and professional history.

We are meeting at a time pregnant with the most momentous issues since the dawn of the Christian era, under the shadow of the greatest calamity in history, with our Empire and her Allies engaged in a death struggle to uphold the cause of freedom and justice against a military despotism which, in the guise of kultur, is seeking world power with the ethics and by the methods of the barbarian.

Those who have admired, perhaps too highly, German learning, scientific achievement, energy and genius for organization, have lived to see all of these directed by an ambitious and cruel autoeracy, abetted by subservient professors, clergy and publicists, and prostituted to the basest of material ends. As members of a profession which has acclaimed German discoveries that have saved thousands of human derelicts, we must hereafter charge the autoeratic system which encouraged their scientific achievements with the subordination of all the resources and capabilities of the nation to an aggressive war, which has led to the slaughter of millions in the flower of manhood; and reflect-

