

A few weeks ago Judge Morson gave judgment quashing the conviction of the police court against an osteopath. Judge Morson quoted a previous judgment of Mr. Justice MacMahon to the effect that practising medicine entailed the giving of drugs for curing or mitigating disease. Judge Morson said: "There appears to be no case holding that medicine can be practised without the use of medicines. There was no medicine administered in this case and if the Ontario Medical Council desire the meaning of the word 'medicine' extended to cover the present or like cases, they must apply to the Legislature.

This is the view the lawyers take. Drugs are only one of the agencies in the hands of the trained physician; and many times he does not use them at all. The surgeon could not follow his work without the use of splints, and yet it is only in a small percentage of his cases he requires. A man is not practising medicine if he is not using drugs say the lawyers; therefore, a man is not practising surgery if he does not use splints. Just as sound would be logic to say: Because all men are bipeds, and all geese are bipeds, therefore, all men are geese! The false element in the foregoing syllogism is once apparent.

So is the false reasoning of our legal friends when they deal with matters medical. As the occasion arises the doctor makes use of fresh air, sunshine, water, food, medicines, exercise, massage, etc. This does not make him an air doctor, nor a sunshine doctor, nor a water doctor, nor a massage doctor. But the lawyers "have us in the wind."

TORONTO MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER.

Now that Dr. Charles Sheard has resigned, the city council and the people begin to realize that he was a really efficient, independent, and upright public official.

There have been several very capable aspirants for the position. Among these we may mention Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, of Alliston. But he had the disadvantage of not knowing Toronto conditions as some of the others, and being an outsider.

Dr. C. A. Hodgetts, the first choice of the Board of Control, would have made an admirable medical health officer. He has had great experience in sanitary matters, and always prepares his reports in very fine form. He has good executive ability and much energy.

Dr. J. A. Amyot, the provincial bacteriologist, would also have made a good official. But he did not receive the nomination of the Board of Control. We understand that Dr. Amyot did not press his application, and is well satisfied in his present position.