

even with a limited knowledge of the language. With regard to the taking out of British and other qualifications, unless you can spend at least two years abroad I question the wisdom of such a procedure.

To the State you have a certain duty to perform in connection especially with preventive medicine. The local authorities will look to you to report cases of infectious disease and to advise them on sanitary matters generally. You will find a lamentable amount of ignorance even among the better educated regarding the simplest laws of health. Among the poor and ignorant there is usually no kind of knowledge on the subject. While your mission, then, will mainly be to cure the sick, much of your time will be occupied in preventing disease.

Until you become independent of practice (and I may warn you that few fortunes are made in our profession), you should eschew party politics. For each doctor who succeeds as a politician over twenty fail. In *medical politics*, however, you should at once begin to take an interest. Our chief want in this country at present is a Central Examining Board, sitting every year at Ottawa, which shall have the power to grant licences to practice medicine in any province in this Dominion. Indeed there is good reason for believing that if such a scheme could be instituted every country in the British Empire, including Great Britain herself, would reciprocate. Even at once, as graduates of this University, you can assist us in our endeavour to equalize the requirements of the various licensing bodies throughout the Dominion, so that we may be enabled to arrange our courses in accordance with the more advanced notions of medical education. You are aware that the tendency of all medical teaching is to decrease the theoretical and didactic teaching and to increase the practical. As a school we have been looking in this direction for years, but are hampered at every turn by the great diversity, with regard to requirements, that exists among the various provincial licensing bodies.

Lastly, I would impress upon you the necessity for cultivating the goodwill and esteem of your fellow-practitioners. You should study the Code of Ethics adopted a few years since by