

ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

As the time for the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Medical Association draws near (June 21st and 22nd), we desire to call attention to some things in its management which, if persisted in, will not only bring discredit on the Society, but in a short time destroy its usefulness, and eventually cause its disruption.

It never was the intention of its founders that it should be turned into a political or any other clique, which, we are sorry to say, it was fast becoming, until the effort at last meeting by certain independent men somewhat checked its unfortunate course.

The objects of this Association are twofold: First, the promotion and advancement of medical science, whereby the ideas and experience of the whole profession of this Province should be untold, where papers should be read and discussed, and reports of rare and interesting cases occurring in the practice of its members introduced, and opinions interchanged regarding their pathology and treatment. Secondly, as a means of communication between the members of our profession, who, living as they do long distances apart and scattered all over the Province, are comparative strangers to one another, but through the instrumentality of this Association friendships are formed, encouragement is given to the younger men, and a social circle becomes established which binds the whole profession together for their mutual benefit and profit.

During the first few years in the life of this Association it nobly did its duty, and the objects of its promoters were fulfilled.

It would be well to have certain of the by-laws and regulations changed in order to give the members greater control, and not leave the regulations or by-laws subject to the interpretation of a small clique, or allow them to be used for the advancement of some particular party or school. The papers presented and read were deteriorating in character, discussion was limited and in some cases entirely suppressed, and the Society was being conducted more or less by self-interested parties. According to existing practice, when the Nominating Committee brings in its report, the Association has to accept it no matter how unpalatable

it may be, as the by laws are so framed that no amendment to it can be moved.

Now, if this society is to attain the standard and maintain the objects for which it was organized, viz., to advance the interests of the profession, elevate the standard of medical education, and to form a bond of union between its members, then the sooner cliqueism is suppressed and a radical change is made in certain methods of management and by-laws, the better it will be for all concerned. The JOURNAL means all this in kindness, and hopes this warning note may be sufficient to prevent any further attempt by ambitious manipulators to control the destinies of this Association.

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The committee having the programme in hand this year are striving to arrange it in such a way as to give greater opportunity for discussion.

The subjects for general discussion are of common interest to the profession, and the names of the members reading papers are a guarantee of their quality.

The Committee on Papers hope to introduce a new feature in this year's programme in the shape of an exhibition of cases by the members of staff in the General Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children. A definite announcement will be made concerning this very shortly, and if it can be carried out, will, it is expected, prove of more than ordinary interest to the visiting members.

In addition to the discussions announced in last issue, the following papers will be read:—

"Resection of Bone," Dr. Gibson, Belleville: "A Case of Acute Simple Meningitis," Dr. Acheson, Trenton: "The Treatment of Diphtheria," Dr. W. J. Wilson, Richmond Hill: "Diphtheria, its Cause and Treatment," Dr. Milner, Toronto: "Massage, its Application in General Practice," Dr. H. Walker, Toronto: "The Treatment of Whooping Cough by Bromoform," Dr. J. T. Duncan, Toronto: "The Prevention of Tuberculosis in Ontario," Dr. G. H. Adams, Toronto: "Deflection of the Nasal Septum and its Surgical Treatment," Dr. Spillsbury, Toronto: "Acute General Peritonitis—Laparotomy—Recovery," Dr. A. MacKinnon, Guelph: "Mistakes in Midwifery," Dr. J. Noble, Toronto. Papers will also be read by Dr. Hunt, of Clarkesburg; Dr. Primrose, of Toronto, and Dr. J. M. Cotton, Lambton Mills.