

pioning a good cause, but was perhaps, too severe, while Dr. Lovitt's letter, to my mind, was simply inexcusable. It is said a certain character is not as black as he is painted. Dr. Sangster was my guest at a sanitary convention in this town; he was affable, gentlemanly, able in controversy, and made many warm and true friends. He is a man I very much respect, and I was pained indeed to find him thus attacked. I need not epitomize other letters or editorial comments; only express the opinion that there have been some things published that it would have been better had they not been written. All fair-minded men must feel disgusted by rude personalities.

There are, no doubt, some who are not in sympathy with the Medical Council, and who do not endorse their acts—some who would annihilate and destroy it, to, perhaps, build on new and improved principles; still they are few who would wish to undo that organization *in toto*. There are a larger number, and with these I heartily sympathize, who would rather modify and improve and who have no ulterior or selfish interests to serve, who only wish to make it, in fact, more strongly an exponent of the wishes and interests of the profession. Something has been gained by its formation; a certain legislation has been secured, a status given, and on the present foundation may yet be raised a superstructure powerful for good, if the electors, as architects, only do their duty.

As a representative body, they are open to fair, honest criticism, and in this they will not be disappointed, if we may judge from the letters that have appeared in the medical journals and daily papers. If they have in any degree done wrong in the past, they will now know that they are being closely watched, and will be the more strictly circumspect in the future. This is what we want, and instead of belittling and abusing, would have them worthy the confidence of the profession, and would rather praise than blame, would rather hasten than delay the day when they should be worthy, claim and receive the same respect as is accorded the Benchers by the legal profession, the College of Pharmacy by the druggists, the Dental Society, Veterinary, Millers' Association, *et id omne genus*. We do not hear of factious opposition

to these bodies, even though they may to individual members be in some degree objectionable. With these there is a community of interest that is best served by a representative board, and this is placed above and beyond all minor questions, and this, I take it, should be the case between the practitioner and the Council.

As it is now, so it has been for years, outside the regulation of examinations, the collection of assessments and other clerical work, the action of the Medical Council is circumscribed and limited, not by legislative enactment alone, but by lack of moral support. They are hounded and hunted and forced to retreat or defend themselves. Let the fault lie where it may, such is the fact, and until a better feeling is secured between them and the profession outside, they cannot act as, perhaps, other circumstances more favourable, they might. We abuse and annoy without giving a fair chance, which, I take it, is not British fair play.

I for one am glad that we are on the eve of an election. I can only regret that the electorate cannot in larger degree secure true expression. I regret that colleges without medical staffs may balance a corresponding number of members elected by popular vote. I regret that the Homeopaths have undue representation, and I do hope the day may come when these anomalies may cease; then, and only then, can we hope to bring the Council into complete accord with the practitioner; then, and only then, may the Council take its merited place before sister organizations, *e.g.*, Provincial Board of Health, Dominion and Provincial Medical Associations. To have the influence of the medical profession, the Medical Council should first represent the whole profession; when they do this they will have influence with the Government, and will secure such legislation and such reforms as are now being demanded.

We want measures taken to secure a uniform interprovincial examining board, and do away with the ridiculous farce of an examination, when one chooses to move to another province, yet remain under the same flag and owe allegiance to the same sovereign.

A Health Department under an administrative head in the Government at Ottawa; payment of