

in his comparatively secluded district, may not be fully aware of the facts; therefore, even at the risk of troubling our readers with what they may well know already, in justice to all concerned, we assert:

1st. That the present members are not responsible for the purchase of an expensive site and the expenditure of many thousands of dollars thereon. The transaction took place many years ago, and to it one of the leaders in the Defence movement was a party.

2nd. This expensive site was a legacy inherited by the predecessors of the present Council, who hoped, by erecting a building commensurate with the amount already invested and thus realizing from rentals, to secure a fair margin of profit to the profession.

3rd. This was probably justifiable, considering the upward tendency of property values in Toronto at the time.

4th. This expectation would have been fulfilled had not a period of depression followed.

5th. It would not be wise at the present to yield to solicitations from any source and dispose of the property in the low state of the market. The members of the Council have personally nothing to lose or gain in the matter any more than the profession at large, whose interests they are trying to serve.

The annual tax was imposed because financial stringency rendered it imperative in order that the revenue be sufficient to meet the requirements. none regret its necessity more than the present members, nor will any be more pleased than they when the College property has sufficiently recovered its market value *pari passu* with the progress of Toronto to facilitate the reduction of expenditure.

We have departed from our intention to avoid repetition of argument, but for fair exposition of the policy of the Council we need only commend, to those who are in a state of hesitation, a reflective perusal of its verbatim records which, without hint or suggestion from the profession, it has put into the hands of all.

We have from time to time unmasked the unfairness that has so often characterized the statements of our opponents. The electorate is awakening to the fact that radicalism run mad is a two-edged tool not very safe in the handling, and we are credibly informed that several who had cast

their lot with the Defence Association find that factious antagonism, to secure popularity and power, is not likely to advance the right and true, and that temperate argument is after all more potent than vituperation and slander. Friends of the Council, and all who are proud to be members of our profession, buckle on your armor and rally to the standard; then, to use Dr. Sangster's words, "we shall rout them, foot, horse and artillery."

THE "CANADA LANCET" ON THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

"Since the return of the editorial 'we' from a three months' sojourn in Europe, he has been looking over the columns of contemporary Ontario medical journals, with the result of his being impressed more than ever with the fact, that a very large storm may be compressed within the compass of a teapot. Judging from the number and quality of letters that have practically filled the editorial columns of some of our medical journals, the physician of Ontario needs a deal of enlightening in regard to his own interests.

"But the most deplorable feature of the whole controversy is the small, personal, and bitter spirit infused into the communications. Farmers quarrelling over a line fence could not descend to more petty and unworthy arguments than have been used.

"Is not the electorate sick unto death of the agitation carried on by a few wordy, loud-mouthed men who have a grievance; who wish to reform the Council by becoming, in some cases members of that much-abused body? The *Canada Lancet* has let the matter severely alone, believing that the Council has done much, and is doing much, for medical education, for the protection of both the public and the profession, and for maintaining the dignity and honor of the profession. When this journal has spoken at all about the matter in question, it has always been in the most moderate terms, not holding that the Council has been either immaculate, or utterly debased and degraded, and unworthy the support of any honest man. That that body has made mistakes is clear, but they have, we believe, honestly done their best, according to their light, to fulfil the purpose for which the Medical Council was originally created. That