

New York, Boston, and other large cities in the United States, the medical societies have taken up this matter ; and further, seeing that at the present time in this city the status and the functions of the health department are such that that department cannot be expected to satisfactorily take up this matter :

Your Council hereby recommend that a competent bacteriologist be appointed by this society, to be known as the bacteriologist appointed by the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society for the inspection of milk, who, under the control of this society, shall be empowered to make bacteriological or other examination of milk for any dealer or private individual who applies for such examination and guarantees the payment of a fee of such an amount as is approved by this society, and who, further, shall issue certificates as bacteriologist of this society in regard to his findings in the different cases.

Association for Medical Defence.

The following report was submitted :—

That this society realizes that to be the subject of a suit for blackmail is both socially and pecuniarily a matter of the utmost gravity for any member of the profession :

That it is in the interests of the profession as a body to protect its individual members against such actions :

That the mere existence of a medical defence association is a strong deterrent against the bringing of such actions :

That, nevertheless, suits for blackmail are relatively and happily infrequent, and that thus, as experience in the Old Country shows, when once such an association is started, there is little general enthusiasm with regard to prompt payment of annual fees, (which there amount to one pound sterling):

That there is little likelihood that an association demanding an annual subscription would meet with continued support.

Your Council would, therefore, conclude that some other scheme has to be sought after and would suggest a scheme somewhat of the following nature, to wit :—

That there be established a Dominion Defence Association with president and secretary-treasurer ; that in each province there be established a branch of this association with provincial vice-president and secretary-treasurer and council of two or three ; that the meeting of this main body be annual, to coincide with the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association ; that the meetings of the local branches be called as necessity arises.

That the conditions of membership shall be the payment of an entrance fee of \$5.00, and no subsequent regular annual fees, save if it be