

ment and support. Among our neighbors to the South, the people of the United States—I came near saying Americans, but, as is well known, we as Canadians claim that title ourselves—the State Association is a great factor in the building up and ennobling of all the higher ideals of life, and is considered one of the best authorities on all matters pertaining to the control of the profession and the health of the people. In this, I feel we should vie with our neighbors, and not be behind in any matter pertaining to the health of the Province. There is no reason why Ontario should not be to the fore in the fight against the enemies of life. There is much that is of a provincial nature—the work of the Provincial Board of Health, the care of the insane, the public hospitals, the relief of inebriety, medical legislation including medical education. A matter of no little importance, too, is it brings the members of our profession into closer touch with each other. It is to the benefit of the individual member. He cannot fail to have his mental horizon extended. In union there is strength.

It has been said that surgery has about reached its limit, and that there is little left for us to do in the way of improvement. Surgery is in as active a stage as ever. While much of the work that is being done now appears marvellous compared with the work of a quarter of a century ago, there is no doubt, and many of our surgeons recognize it, that there is still in sight a great field for improvement, and that we may be looked upon as lilliputians compared with those who will do the work at the end of the next quarter or half century. While our knowledge is actually great, it seems little after all when we consider the possibilities of the future. When the tubercle bacillus was made known to us we were congratulating ourselves that the white plague would disappear forever. Although we are wondrous wise we have no reason as yet to boast of any great wisdom. No matter how much we quarantine the microbes they still produce—I say this advisedly—such diseases as the white plague, enteric fever, the infectious diseases and many others, and by their flank movements get in their deadly work. On the part of the physician it will always be a fight to the finish—the French proverb, “Après la mort le Médecin,” expresses it aptly—on the part of the microbe a fight to the death. The discoveries that have already been made impress us only too strongly that research work must be pursued on a larger scale than ever, and our multi-millionaires benevolently, philanthropically inclined in their later days at least could not do better than aid in the great work of research. While we can felicitate ourselves for much that has been done in the matter of serum treatment, especially in diphtheria and rabies, we may look forward to even greater things. Great as these advances seem, the possibilities seem greater. The surgeon, as is well known, is too often the victim of so-called blood poisoning. It has claimed as its victims many of the most skilful and cultured of our profession, besides placing many others near the brink of the great beyond. It is