

and of diseases of the eye and of the changes which the organ may reveal, indicating affections of the nervous, vascular and other systems and parts of the body.

4. And whereas under their present charter of incorporation opticians can adopt and utilize a variety of means to develop greater skill and usefulness in their calling and can exclude the unfit from their ranks, without further powers.

5. And whereas opticians have been and are tradesmen, and buy and sell and advertize like other merchants; and are not entitled to be recognized as a *profession* any more than the makers and vendors of artificial limbs, who follow a similar calling.

Therefore, resolved, That the members of the Section of Ophthalmology and Oto-Laryngology of the Academy of Medicine are strongly opposed to the proposed legislation sought by certain opticians as not being in the public interest, especially where power is granted to confer a license or certificate which may give even inferentially the right to use such terms as "Doctor of Optics," Doctor of Optometry, (D.O.) Ophthalmic Doctor, eyesight specialist, which quasi-degrees mislead and impose upon the public as they do not necessarily indicate any special skill and confer no professional privileges such as medical practitioners alone enjoy.

ATTITUDE OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The profession stands confirmed in its unalterable decision that there should be but one standard of fitness for licentiates and but one portal to its ranks,—matriculation, a thorough training for at least five years, a common imprimatur,—and it will strongly oppose any measures which tend to degrade such standards and to give legal professional status to quasi-medicos of any sort. It was to this and that the Medical Act was passed "simply and solely" as Mr. H. S. Osler, K.C., has said, "to protect the public against incompetence."

The profession has been waiting for years for an authoritative and comprehensive definition of the practice of medicine,—on the whole patiently, but at times in a naturally restive mood because of added injustice due to delay,—and it will certainly repudiate any definition which reduces the well-recognized and legitimate scope of modern medicine.

Our attitude towards irregular practitioners was shewn years ago in the efforts of the Medical Council as trustee of the profession, to secure conviction in the courts against one and another trespasser. That it was thwarted in its repeated attempts in this behalf by a most narrow interpretation of the law, which sadly failed to reflect the usual breadth