

briefly—the question of State aid to the teaching of medicine. Old prejudices die hard. The old doctrine of prejudice of no aid to the students of a lucrative profession has been reiterated so often since the middle of the last century in Ontario, that it may seem almost like heresy to dispute it. But is the profession after all so very lucrative? There are some prizes, it is true: but is the average of wealth in the profession above that of a comfortable living?

To see the matter in its proper light we should take into account the enormous importance of public health, even from a financial standpoint. Large sums of public money—I am looking around for the Principal of the Ontario College of Agriculture—are spent annually upon the teaching of agriculture, engineering and pedagogy in view of their general importance, but not one cent for any branch of medical science.

It is my view that this doctrine of non-support should be revised. I do not advocate indiscriminate grants, but the subjects to which the whole time of a professor is given, such as pathology, might be given aid.

Is the physical condition of the student of less importance than his mental development?

The material prosperity of the country is advanced by the engineering profession, which profession is at least as lucrative as that of medicine: and after all of what advantage is material prosperity without the health to enjoy it. It is said that Rockefeller would give millions to be able to digest beefsteak.

The pathology and hygiene of domestic animals are taught in the Agriculture Colleges, and does it not seem strange that the claims in the same branches in connection with human beings should be ignored? I merely put forward the idea as one which I hope to see realized when public opinion becomes a little more enlightened, and some unreasonable prejudices are eradicated. I shall not detain you longer, but give way at once to the different gentlemen who have yet to address you.

We have recently had the pleasure of welcoming to Canada many of the representatives of commerce and legislation from the Motherland, but I may say that it affords us particular pleasure to-day to have with us upon this occasion so distinguished a representative of British Science as Professor Sherrington of the University of Liverpool. His work in physiology has won a high place in the world of science. We owe Professor Sherrington our very special thanks for responding to the invitation of the University to be present, and for his readiness to undertake a long and tiresome journey to be with us on this occasion, and I take this opportunity of expressing the indebtedness of the University to him for his great kindness.

The President then called upon Professor Sherrington to deliver the inaugural address