

competitive system, except as the competition comes from within. But the multiplication of medical colleges and the freedom given in some places to unorthodox systems, has torn down the barriers beyond repair. Competition is in all the professions, though not yet in full force. They will follow the same course as common labor, namely, the doctors will lose their independence and become the employees of corporations and unions. There will be individual exceptions, but this will be the rule, because it is the most economical and equitable plan for the employers. The employed will have to submit to it. Then wages will have to drop, as in other cases, until they are down to the cost of subsistence (in the required style). In Germany now the services of a Ph.D. can be obtained for about the same wages as those as a good mechanic.

Unions among doctors to keep up the standard of wages are as legitimate as other trades unions, but can, in the nature of the case, be only a partial success. The physicians' unions may obtain some temporary success by fighting the unions, but such a course is suicidal, for it will throw the power more completely into the hands of the capitalists. All the workers must unite in the coming contest, and not waste their energies in fighting each other. I also give an extract from an essay by Dr. A. D. Watson, of Toronto, which appeared in a Toronto medical journal :

"The lodge is a combine; so also is the insurance company, the street railway, the department store, the trust, the railway, the city water-works, the street commissioner's department, and every partnership on the planet. Every man or woman who writes a letter to a friend is aiding the most powerful and highly organized combine known to history, and that physician who has a contract to attend the employees of any firm of merchants or manufacturers, or the workmen of any railroad or street railway company, and who at the same time opposes the principle of lodge practice, is a hypocrite. Let me hasten to say that the dear brother does not seem to know it, so we forgive him and leave him to think over it. The pale moon could as easily thwart the splendors of dawn as could the medical profession abolish lodge practice, except by supplanting it by introducing state medicine and surgery. This and all other combines, including the trust and the department stores, must be extended till they assume national proportions; for the combine principle is all right when viewed from the interior. Let us, then, all get aside, and there will be no lodges left, their uses having vanished in the dawn of a science of national sociology, a universal art of social life.

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