

I pass now to a brief consideration of the needs of the future. Along what lines are advances to be made? To begin with, there is one matter, gentlemen, which I think is of paramount importance to this association, and it is this: the consolidation of the profession in Canada into one strong and united body. That task can be accomplished by no other means than by this national association. We have already done something towards this end. No longer than three years ago we were a very haphazard body. The membership was constituted, for all practical purposes, only by those who came to the annual meeting—from three hundred to four hundred men. And these, of course, varied enormously from year to year, according to the part of the country in which the meeting happened to be held. With this state of affairs, there was no possibility of concerted action. A great step forward was made in the establishment of the *Journal* of the association, and in making membership continuous, and the payment of the fee an annual necessity for continued membership. The establishment of the *Journal* involved, as I happen to know, a very great amount of labor on the part of the Finance Committee, and the thanks of the association are due to the members of the Finance Committee for the last three years, as well as to its able and self-sacrificing editor, Dr. Andrew Macphail. The *Journal* has had a very excellent start. It had to be begun as a monthly, but we look forward to its becoming, before long, a weekly. Canada can afford plenty of good material for a weekly, if material were all that was needed. But, unfortunately, journals cannot live on material alone. The financial burden of the undertaking is very great; and the Finance Committee assures me that unless the membership roll of the association increases very considerably, it will be impossible to stand the expenses of a weekly. When we consider that the *Journal*, as the organ of the Canadian Medical Association, is the one great bond which alone can unite the profession from East to West, we cannot fail to realize the great importance of loyal adherence to the association. It means so much to the profession in Canada as a whole, and to each individual man, that there should exist a strong central body, like the Canadian Medical Association, to look after their interests, that I cannot conceive how any medical man should remain out of it.

This, then, is the great problem—to get the Canadian Medical Association solidly cemented together. How is it to be done? To my mind, it is to be done by an extension of the principle of affiliation. Two years ago the only province that had declared itself in favor of affiliation with the Canadian Medical Association, and