

accorded to graduates of the C. P. S. of Ontario, and it is a matter for regret that an agreement of this kind has, so far, not been arrived at. The English authorities, while fully recognizing the high standing of our examinations, are not willing to place our graduates on the English Register. They offer us a Colonial Register, which, in my opinion, the C. P. S., Ontario, was justified in refusing; for we should, by accepting it, have the appearance of placing our men on a plane of inferiority. While we cannot well agree to reciprocity on other than an equal footing, we may yet hope that a way out of the present difficulty will be found. When we consider that for one Canadian who desires to register and practice in England, there are probably five or more Englishmen who come to practice in Canada, it is evident that the English graduate has more to gain from a satisfactory settlement of the question than has his Canadian fellow.

With reference to the examinations as conducted by the Ontario Council, I may venture to speak without presumption. After fifteen years' experience in medical teaching, I do not hesitate to say that there is no country, not even England, in which a higher standard is required of the medical student than in ours. The diploma of the C. P. S., Ontario, is a guarantee that its holder is fit to practice in any part of the world. Indeed, our system of examination and graduation might well be taken as a pattern both in England and the United States.

I trust, gentlemen, that we shall not close our present session without appointing a committee to memorialize the authorities to have the law so amended, if possible, that in all suits for malpractice, security for costs shall be given before commencement of action. It is scandalous that we should be obliged to pay not only our own costs in defence, but also in a majority of cases the costs of the other side. To render keener the injustice under which we suffer, it is notorious that in many instances where these actions are brought, the services of the physician have been given gratuitously, because the patient was too poor to pay for them.

I would also suggest that some action be taken towards securing a uniform license for the Dominion. It borders on the ridiculous that a man who has graduated before the Council here, and wishes to settle in Manitoba, should

be obliged to pass before the Manitoba Council as well. If each Province were represented on the Board of Examiners it could be easy to set this right, to spare the young student a hardship and his pocket an expense that he may be in no position to bear after the final outlay on his medical course. In thus pleading the cause of the student, I feel confident of your sympathy and support.

There is one more subject I would wish to bring to your notice, in the hope that some united action may be taken to rectify what I believe to be a positive injury to our profession: I mean the practice of attending lodges and clubs for an annual fee of so much per head. I regret to say that this custom is becoming more widespread every day in our midst. I do not speak from motives of jealousy or personal interests, because I myself have none of it to do, but because I have always condemned the practice as one lowering the standard of our profession. I sincerely believe that the man who indulges in this practice does himself a great injustice, by giving his services for a fee far beneath their value. He injures his fellow-practitioner by depriving him of the legitimate means of making his living, and he lowers his profession in the eyes of the public by allowing them to buy his services at their own price. Surely if the laboring man by united action can raise the price and value of his labor, and declines to work unless he gets what he believes he is worth to his employer, we as a profession ought to be able to sustain a uniform standard of fees. It is a subject I would earnestly commend to your most careful consideration, and see if some means cannot be devised to rectify the present evil.

I will now ask your permission to review, in a few words, the career of the Ontario Medical Association. It was founded in 1881, with 132 members, under the distinguished presidency of our venerable and esteemed fellow-practitioner, Dr. Workman, and nothing short of success could be predicted for an association to which so learned a gentleman lent his aid and ability. Further, it is not to be wondered at that the association has steadily grown and prospered under the management of such worthy men as Drs. Covernton, of Toronto, Macdonald, of Hamilton, Clark, of Toronto, Worth-