

day is the result of the combined action of the universities and schools. If Dr. Sangster thinks that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario exists merely for the benefit of the profession, he is entirely mistaken. Its chief object is the protection of the public.

The annual assessment is called an unjust tax, but lawyers, dentists, druggists, pay one, and much larger than is levied on the members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, yet the members of this College get in return a larger measure of protection through the enforcement of the Medical Act. The tax levied from the year 1874 to 1890 was one dollar.

There never was in the history of the Council an application to the Legislature to increase the annual fee to ten dollars; five dollars was mentioned, but was rejected. As to the probability of the Council asking powers to increase the annual assessment to fifty dollars, the probabilities are all the other way, and the Council frequently expressed the hope that they would soon be able to do without the annual assessment.

The Ontario Medical Act is looked upon the world over as one of the best and most just laws regarding the medical profession, and has been copied in many instances in forming the laws governing the profession in many States in the Union, and of the other provinces of the Dominion, Quebec is trying to get it to-day. The British Medical Council have tried it again and again, because the Act is regarded by all medical authorities as being the most complete law upon any statute book.

The amended Act of 1874 was not secured by fraud. The Act directed the Council to do certain things, such as, establish examination boards and otherwise look after the interests of the profession. It also provided for the prosecution of quacks and unregistered practitioners, and this was looked upon as a protection to the regularly registered practitioner, and a benefit for which he could afford to pay a trifle annually, viz., not less than one dollar or more than two dollars, and the Legislature felt it a reasonable tax for each member of the profession to pay.

The recent legislation compelling the Council to

maintain a Discipline Committee, entails a heavy expense, but it is most necessary for the purpose of investigating the conduct of any member of the College who may be charged with "unprofessional conduct," or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, by any four members of the College. As a number of applications were made to the Council, they had to investigate the conduct of Dr. B. H. Lemon, Toronto; Dr. Nelson Washington, Toronto; Dr. J. C. Bright, Chatham, Ont.; Dr. John McKeown, Windsor, Ont.; Dr. Wm. Anderson, London, Ont.; Dr. S. E. McCully, Toronto, Ont. The first and second names have been ordered for erasure; in the third case the order of erasure is held in abeyance; the fourth, ordered for erasure, to be made as soon as he can be served with notice; the fifth and sixth, to be reported upon to the Council in June, 1893.

As to the receipts being in excess of expenditure in early years, this is owing to the fact that the Council had to use borrowed rooms, for which they paid no rent, for their meetings, and also for examination purposes.

There was no design on the part of the Council to make the medical electorate pay for the Toronto structure, for the sole benefit of the members of the profession in Toronto. It must be remembered that the site and building were not purchased until the year 1878, the old church being used for Council purposes for ten years, until the wretchedness of the Council premises became a standing disgrace to the medical profession; then the present building was erected.

Is the protection afforded by the enforcement of the Medical Act not worth more to every practitioner than two dollars per annum? The annual fee which can be levied in some of the other provinces of the Dominion is far in excess of Ontario, viz., five dollars a year. The necessity of forcing all to pay the annual tax was urged upon the Council again and again by a number of the profession, and the Council endeavoured by the powers of statute to collect by ordinary process in the Division Court, but it was found too costly and impracticable, to say nothing of the unpleasantness and humiliation caused by suing a doctor in his own town; hence the Council were advised by their solicitor to secure legislation similar to the Law Society.