

be more consistently carried out. But no, the member will pay for every commodity he needs and for every service he requires at ruling rates, but when illness appears, then cut rates are expected from the individual whose duty it is to undo the grasp of disease or obstruct the approach of the destroying angel. Now, instead of the physician being called upon in these events to be the sole disseminator of benevolence, why should not the judges, merchants, bankers, etc., do the work for their sick brethren by contributing towards adequate payment for the services required? or, if each member contributed annually towards a physician's fund, would it not be a more just and satisfactory arrangement?

But the most objectionable feature of Lodge practice is not insufficient remuneration—it means a loss of independence of action; the physician must be governed by the stated Lodge rules, and members are frequently more than exacting in the services they demand. He is called out at unreasonable hours, and bothered with trifling and imaginary ailments. Imaginary neglect or malicious complaints are submitted to open lodge, and time must be spent in explaining to the Committee of Enquiry. The unseemly situation of several physicians applying and canvassing for the appointment is boasted of by some of the Lodge Doctor advocates. This means factions in the Lodge and a section unfriendly towards the successful candidate, and often bitter feelings and a loss of previous respect among the latter; this being especially the case in small towns and villages.

It is frequently stated that, if the position were not of some advantage, there would not be so many applicants; but it is not contended that there are not some favorable features in connection with lodge practice, such as being for the young practitioner a wholesale gain to his *clientèle*.

However, the fact that such a large proportion of the community are enrolled in these institutions, and the proportion constantly increasing and including frequently children and women's departments, and the fact that if one does not take the appointment others will, will account for so many physicians of some years of practice retaining them and for others being so willing to accept them. Advocating, however, the abolition of the Lodge Doctor in