

medical education been increased to the student in proportion to the cost of providing it? The answer is, that medical teaching, properly so-called, has never been self-supporting, and is now less so than ever before. It is true that the aggregate amount of the student's fees is now greater by some twenty or thirty per cent. than it was five and twenty years ago; but in the same period not only has the aggregate of school expenditure been more than doubled, but in some of the departments it has been even trebled and quadrupled, and all this while practising the most rigid economy in every particular.

Nor does there seem at present to be any remedy for this disparity between the price paid for a medical education and the increasing cost of providing it; for the scale of fees is virtually controlled by those schools which have the fewest real advantages to give to their pupils, while their degrees have the same legal value as the best in the land. There are many and strong reasons, also for considering it most undesirable to attempt to impose any additional burdens upon the medical student of to-day. He has sufficient to contend with in the increased requirements of the ever extending curriculum in matters connected with his preliminary examination, and in the vexatious differences and re-examinations which are brought upon him by our absurd provincial medical laws.

Having thus endeavored briefly to outline the important changes which the system of medical education has undergone in the past, and is likely to undergo in the future, let me endeavor to show also very briefly how these changes have affected our own school, the Faculty of McGill University, and how we have been enabled to meet them.

I think it may be safely taken for granted that nearly every doctor worthy of the name, who loves his profession, also loves to talk about it, and being fully impressed with the noble character of his calling, he naturally longs to impart his knowledge to others. This is the true missionary spirit, and bearing this in mind it will be more easy to account for the fact that medical schools are apt to break out at most unexpected times and in most unexpected places, and are apt also to exhibit most wonderful vitality under adverse circumstances. They may be starved, they may be persecuted, they may be legislated against and they may seem to be blotted out,