

this association was defunct—that it is not an active organization. I wish to add, while I am on my feet, that I had the pleasure of Dr. Brown's company to New Brunswick last fall, where I know he reported the meetings of the Dominion Medical Association; and I know he has reported the meetings of the Ontario Medical Association. While with Dr. Brown, I formed a very favorable impression, indeed, of his qualification; and other things being equal I think the Council might fairly give the position to a medical man. I would be very glad to second Dr. Stachell's motion, if it is in or *er*.

Dr. HENRY: Would you read the application that came in from Dr. Brown?

The Registrar reads Dr. Brown's communication, soliciting the position.

Dr. BARRICK: I may just say with regard to Dr. Brown that there is no question of his ability to fill the position. That is a matter, I think, that we can be assured of. I have known him in the Medical Association. I was treasurer of that association for four years, and I know personally the excellent work he has done for that association; therefore, so far as his being fit and competent to fill the position there is no question whatever. There is just this difficulty now, it seems to me, that we should have first discussed the salary attached to these various offices; otherwise you appoint a gentleman to the position, and afterwards, from some change that might possibly be made in the remuneration, he may say, "Gentlemen, if this is the remuneration, I shall not accept the position." It seems to me perfectly clear that first of all, when an office is created and has to be filled, there should be a stated salary fixed in regard to that office; then we will be in a position to receive applicants for the position, and we will be able then to judge and to select the man who will give us the most efficient service at the most reasonable expense. So far as Dr. Brown is concerned, Dr. Bray and Dr. Rogers may be correct that a gentleman must be a member of the Chartered Stenographic Reporters' Association to make his report legal. If that is so, it seems a very strange thing, because all that a stenographer can do is to give a verbatim report; that is all. From what has been said of Dr. Brown I am satisfied that that verbatim report can be given by him as well as by any other man in this province.

Dr. BROCK:—Before the motion is submitted I wish to say a few words. Something tangible should be before the members of the Medical Association. An offer has been made to serve the Council for a certain sum of money. I think, from what you read, a statement has been made that this gentleman is willing to perform the duties of a stenographer for a certain sum of money; and, before a motion is put, I think we ought to have a tender also, if there is not one in already, from the present stenographer, so that we will know what we are voting on, if it is a question of economy that settles the question, all other things being equal.

Dr. MOORE:—Before the question is put, we have an offer here from Dr. Brown; but we have not given Mr. Downey an opportunity to say whether he will take the same remuneration that Dr. Brown has offered to do the work for. That might put another face on the matter.

Dr. EMORY:—It would be well to ascertain from our

solicitor whether the evidence taken by Dr. Brown would be accepted by the judges.

Dr. SANGSTER: Perhaps we could reach that point if the president would kindly ask Mr. Downey whether he has ever been asked by anybody for whom he has reported, before proceeding to make that report, if he is a member of the Chartered Stenographic Reporters' Association; whether that was made a condition of his being permitted to report their proceedings.

Dr. BRAY: I would ask permission for Mr. Downey to address this Council.

Mr. Downey here stated that the Chartered Stenographic Reporters' Association has power only to hold examinations and qualify members; that their Act of Incorporation does not make transcripts of Chartered Stenographic Reporters' notes official in the sense spoken of; that the statement that the C.S.R.A. was a defunct association is not correct, as the association is still very much alive; that it is quite true the test in shorthand is at the rate of 150 words a minute, but candidates had to make 97 per cent. on that test, and prior to their examination were in the habit of saying, as has been said here to-day for Dr. Brown, that they could easily write at the prescribed rate, but when put to the test they found it rather a severe one; and further stated that he would accept, so far as the Council was concerned, the same remuneration for reporting the Council meeting as is asked for in Dr. Brown's communication; that this will not apply to work done for any of the committees, or work other than reporting the session of the Council.

Dr. ROOME:—There seems to be an idea of the salary question coming up afterwards, and there is no use allowing these two men to settle their quarrels. Would it not be well to withdraw the motion and leave it over until the salary is settled. I think this Council chamber is the right place to settle the salary, and when we decide on that, all being equal, it depends on the members who will get the appointment.

Dr. BRITTON:—A great part of the work will have to be done, in case we agree to this proposition, by Mr. Downey, without having an appointment or understanding of any kind; therefore, an exception must be made in the case of the appointment of a stenographer. We have two names before us, and it is a very easy matter for us to determine which is to be the man of our choice. I had made up my mind that in case Dr. Brown's offer should be more advantageous to us, lower than what has been paid to Mr. Downey, that I would vote for Dr. Brown; but if Mr. Downey is willing to accept the appointment at the same rates, I certainly shall have to vote for the servant whom we have hitherto employed and who has given us satisfaction.

The PRESIDENT:—I will read the motion: "It is moved by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Dr. Moore, that Mr. Alex. Downey, C.S.R., be reappointed official Stenographer of the Council for the ensuing year."

Dr. ROSEBROUGH:—There is an amendment to that.

The PRESIDENT:—It is not an amendment.

Dr. McLAUGHLIN:—Will you be good enough to read what purports to be an amendment?

The President reads: "Moved by Dr. Machell, seconded by Dr. Shaw, that Dr. J. N. E. Brown be Stenographer for the present session of the Council."