

Troltsch maintains that it is not only desirable but necessary in the interest of the State that every physician entitled to practice should be capable of diagnosing and treating diseases of the ear. He calls to mind that recently a special examination on the diseases of the eye has been rendered obligatory in all the German Universities, and that this new measure has been instituted for the following reasons: 1st. The great prevalence of diseases of the eye. 2nd. The very serious consequences that these diseases may have over individuals, and indirectly on the State. 3rd. The serious consequences and the prejudices caused by these maladies may diminish in direct proportion to the number of physicians who may become capable of diagnosing correctly and of treating the different forms of these maladies. The author arrives at the conclusion that the same reasons which necessitate a knowledge of the diseases of the eye, plead in favour of those of the ear. In regard to the first conclusion, he does not hesitate to state that diseases of the ear are of much more frequent occurrence than is generally supposed, and for the following reasons; they are not visible and easy to recognize like the generality of the diseases of the eye, therefore the acuteness of hearing may be reduced in notable proportions, before the fact may be sensible in the ordinary relations of life. He shows in a very conclusive manner how these affections are frequent in infancy and childhood as a sequence of small pox, measles, scarlatina, whooping-cough diphtheria and scrofula. In the adult they result principally from tuberculosis, syphilis, pregnancy, and a great number of accidental causes.

The number of individuals who die from the consequence of disease of the ear is sufficiently considerable, and it is certain, that in a great number the treatment, if properly conducted, would prevent a fatal termination. Comparing the results to those given from diseases of the eye, the author considers serious consequences as much less frequent than in diseases of the ear.

The author believes that he is below the truth in asserting that of the 38,489 deaf and dumb persons existing in Germany, 15,000 owe their infirmity to diseases of the ear supervening after birth, and that a fifth, or 3,000 of these would, by speedy and energetic treatment of the affection of the ear, have escaped deafness, and would, at the least, have preserved a degree of auditory acuteness suf-

ficient for the comprehension of verbal language, and for profiting by ordinary education. He adds that it is highly necessary to give great attention to affections of the ear following the acute exanthemata, for these very frequently cause deafness. As regards the third point mentioned above, Troltsch is of the opinion, that the more surgeons there are capable of treating affections of the ear, the less will be the number of reputed incurables. He concludes therefore by desiring that a new regulation for examinations be established. Beyond being content with subjection of the candidate to an oral examination on the surgery of the ear, he would introduce a practical examination. The candidate should give substantial proof that he is capable of examining the tympanum in the living subject, and of describing its appearance; he should also be required to practice catheterism of the Eustachian tube on both the living and the dead subject, and to perform sundry delicate operations on the ear.

It is therefore obvious that he assimilates, with reason, the affections of the eye and ear, from the point of view of their importance, especially in young persons. All who read this memoir will see how truly its author has written, and that the course advised by him is the only efficacious means for attainment of the desired end, in other words physicians should no longer disregard the study of these affections. We shall be only too happy if these allusions to instruction on these diseases, may contribute to the introduction into our own faculties of a compulsory course on this important and long neglected branch of medical education.

DIFFERENTIAL REGISTRATION FEES.

At the late meeting of the Ontario Medical Council, a by-law was passed making a general registration fee of \$400 and granting a rebate of \$350 to Canadian graduates. This is intended to prevent British graduates, and Canadian M.D's possessing British qualifications, from practising in Canada, except on payment of a registration fee of \$400. We question, however, very much, whether such an arrangement as this will hold water. We believe it is *ultra vires*. The act provides that all who have received their qualifications prior to the 1st of July 1870 shall be admitted on payment of a registration fee of \$10, and no differential registration fee was contemplated.