

Walters, Kitchener; A. E. Wickens, Hamilton.

The officers elected were: Dr. W. E. Crain, president; Dr. R. Ferguson, vice-president; Dr. H. W. Aikins, registrar-treasurer, and Mr. H. S. Osler, solicitor.

PATENT MEDICINES.

In another part of this issue we give some valuable information regarding one of the new "medicines" flaunted before the public gaze. Martin Luther once said that "three-fourths of the people were going about with their mouths agape waiting for some one to befool them." Barnum said that "if this be true then I am going after the three-fourths." The composition of some are just in keeping with what one would have expected. Ontario is now "dry," and a mixture of high percentage of alcohol comes in very conveniently for those who wish a "fillip."

The day has long gone by when it could be said that newspaper men are ignorant about the merits of such concoctions. There is no excuse for the lay press carrying the advertisement of mixtures that hold out promise of curing consumption, cancer, all sorts of kidney diseases, any every kind of stomach trouble. We have seen advertisements promising a cure for paralysis. Such statements are fraudulent and should be so regarded and so treated.

Proprietary medicine men in the past have made large fortunes in a most brazenly dishonest way. This must cease. The law does not permit one to sell three-quarters of a pound for one pound; far less should it permit one to sell a consumption or a cancer cure.

GERMAN PATENTS.

The quotation from a recent issue of the *British Medical Journal* is much to the point:

"It is to be hoped that in the years to come it will never again happen that industries providing materials which are directly, or indirectly, essential to the practice of medicine are allowed to languish and die out in this country. Instances which strike the mind at once are the manufacture of many kinds of scientific apparatus, and the synthetic drug industry, both of which had so largely passed into the hands of firms in foreign countries, that the outbreak of war found us cut off from almost every source of supply. The result has been a dangerous shortage of instruments, chemicals, and appliances indispensable