

THE PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE DURING THE PAST 35 YEARS.*

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Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—Allow me on behalf of the Faculty to thank you for the kind and hearty manner in which you have received this toast and, at the same time, to assure all who are here, that the Medical Faculty of the Western University, have now, as in former years, deeply at heart the welfare of all the students under their care, and, in saying this, I feel that I am echoing the sentiments of each and every member of the Faculty.

Owing to the Ontario Medical Act, passed about 35 years ago, our standard of medical education, in this Province, is as high as that found in any country, and higher than that which prevails in many countries. The standard of medical education, as you all know, is in the hands of The Ontario Medical Council, which, year by year, watches over the curriculum with a most zealous eye, lest some of its requirements be passed over lightly by some of the various teaching bodies. Your council keeps a keen watch over the advancement of medical science throughout the world, especially the improved methods of teaching in foreign schools, which are rapidly adopted and laid down in the curriculum for the guidance of the various teaching bodies or faculties in our Province, all of which are obliged to work up to this standard. The work of each medical school is thus put to a fair, practical test, inasmuch as the annual contingent from each school is subject to the same ordeal, which I am obliged to say, in justice to the Medical Council, is of a fair and practical character. Here there is an impartial test of the kind of teaching given in each school. I am also, in justice, obliged to say—and I say it with considerable pride—that the men from our school have done their Alma Mater credit and long may they continue to do so.

The life of a medical student is an arduous one during his college course—that is if he does it and himself justice.

When I look back through the past 35 years, and see how entirely changed is the curriculum of studies, how much has been added to it—old theories, which at that time were taught with minute care and exactitude, have now been exploded and a new order of things has taken place.

When I take a careful survey of some of the newer theories and innovations in the field of science, and especially in medical science, I am tempted to exclaim where will it all end? What great surprises are there still in store for us? There is no doubt that each decade will add its quota—for this is an age of keen investigation. In no other time of the

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