

in 1853 abolished the Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto.

From 1853 to 1887 we had the era of Proprietary Medical Schools.

The alleged ground for the abolition of the Medical Faculty was the supposed popular sentiment against State aid for a lucrative profession. Whether this was the real ground is still a matter of dispute. If it was the real ground the Legislature of succeeding years manifested great inconsistency in the application of the principle. for from 1852 to 1871 no less a sum than \$65,000 was granted by Parliament to the various Medical Schools, aid being given in fact to all who applied. After 1871 all these grants were cut off, just as had been the grants to Art Colleges a few years before.

Looking back over the past hardly anybody will venture now to assert that the era of Proprietary Schools was an unqualified success. Nobody will say that they provided an ideal medical education. But on the other hand, nobody will deny that much good and honest work was done, and that the education of our medical men in spite of difficulties reached a high standing.

Efforts were made by the University of Toronto to raise the standard of examination from time to time. That standard was raised, in 1882, for instance, and the numbers of the graduating class in medicine dropped at once from thirty-two to fifteen, and eventually to ten. The schools were, in fact, unable to cope with the situation. Their teaching was weak on the scientific side, and it was bound to be so. It was impossible for them to provide the expensive equipment and elaborate supervision necessary under modern conditions for thorough work on the scientific side.

Through the establishment of a teaching faculty of medicine, in 1887, medical education in Ontario entered upon a new era. Under the new organization, the expensive equipment of the University in biology, physiology, chemistry and physics was put at the service of the Medical Faculty, and moreover the Medical Faculty has been self-sustaining, and has been, in fact, an element of strength to the resources of the University.

The Medical Faculty has done a great work in the interests of the public by sending forth a great body of young men to alleviate the ills of humanity.

We are now entering upon an important forward movement in the work. The Federation of Trinity with the University of Toronto is practically assured, and on the strength of this the amalgamated Medical Faculties begin to-day its work in this Building.

Medical education through this step enters upon a new and higher stage of development, and the future is full of hope.

There is just one point further to which I wish to refer very