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Original Communications.

OUR PROFESSION AND THE LAITY IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.*

By DR. H. J. HAMILTON, TORONTO.

I have a deep sense of appreciation of the honor you have done me in electing me to the Presidency of the foremost Medical Association in Canada. I am conscious of the fact that the profession in Ontario has no greater honor to confer upon one of its members. The status of this Association, however, is such that the honor carries with it grave responsibilities which I have endeavored to discharge, as well as I am able, to your satisfaction and in the interests of the Association. If I have failed in this I crave your indulgence.

On reviewing our history from the date of our organization, in 1881, I entered upon the duties of office with a great deal of temerity. The list of past presidents, the part they have had in the development of the Association since its inception, and the high point of excellence which it has attained, not only inspired me with awe, but stimulated and encouraged me to try to make this meeting an unqualified success. I cannot speak too highly of the support which has been rendered by the committees and the membership of the Association. It is with pardonable pride that I present to you the results of the combined labor of all, viz., the best programme ever provided for our annual meeting. In passing, I would thank the Secretary for his untiring efforts during the past year.

*In addressing the audience before me, it is superfluous to

* President's address at meeting of Ontario Medical Association, Toronto, June 1, 1909.