

**Medical Council of Canada.**

One of the evils created by the oversight of the founders of Confederation is the restriction placed upon medical men which confines them within a particular Province, so that, however eminent a specialist may be and however urgently his services may be required he is not allowed by the law to go outside the boundary of the Province wherein he is registered. In order to remove this scandal, this anomaly, a Bill has been introduced into the House of Commons by Dr. Roddick which aims at the organization of a Medical Council having authority to provide one qualification common to all Canada. Eight members of this Council, one selected from each Province, are to be nominated by the Governor General in Council, three by each Medical School, three by each Provincial Medical Council, and one by each University that teaches medicine, the number being 39. The effects would be to raise the educational standard of the medical profession, and open up a wider sphere of usefulness. There seems to be some difficulty in regard to this Province, but why is a mystery. Dr. Roddick is a Montreal physician, who is universally honoured by his professional brethren and incapable of any action inimical to their interests. The desire shown by some in the Province of Quebec to isolate the people therein from outside Canadian associations is much to be deprecated. There is no better reason for confining a doctor to a certain district in Canada than for restricting the operations of a merchant, or a bank, or insurance company to one city. Dr. Roddick is entitled to the thanks of the entire Medical Faculty for his efforts to enlarge their opportunities and deserves public gratitude for endeavouring to remove an anomaly which was accidentally overlooked when Confederation was organized.

**U. S. Stamp Issues.**

The American postal authorities have issued a return, giving copious details of the stamp issues of the U. S. post office. Like all official documents issued at Washington, the return is a model of neatness in presenting statistical matter. The postal issues exhibit the extension of business since the dark days of 1892. In that year, 1892, the postal issues were, number of pieces, 3,673,944,332, the value being \$68,748,020. In 1901 the pieces numbered 5,705,731,709, their value, \$104,785,986. The increases, though large, were not equal in proportion to those that took place between 1881 and 1893. In the former year these were, 1,499,773,498 pieces issued, valued at \$34,483,503, so the increase in value from 1881 to 1892 was 52 per cent., whereas, from 1893 to 1901, the increase in value was only 38.8 per cent. The postal pieces issued in 1901 give an average of 37.5 for every family in the United States.

**Literary Larceny.**

A daily contemporary recently published an editorial on "Bank Notes," that was taken without acknowledgment from this journal. The only attempt at disguising the article was the introduction of two crude remarks both absurd and stale. If the contributor of this article secured payment for it he was guilty of a highly reprehensible act, which, in legal phraseology, bears a very offensive title. We note in an English contemporary a reference to Mr. David Parks Fackler's two communications to this journal, without any acknowledgement. This may have been an oversight, but no person could clip out a lengthy technical article dealing with a currency question and send it to a daily paper as an editorial without knowing that such an act is literary larceny.

**THE BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.**

The 66th annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of British North America was held at its new offices in Gracechurch street, London, on 4th inst. In removing the offices from St. Clement's Lane to their present location the Bank took an excellent step. A long lease has been secured of a site in the very heart of the business centre of the metropolis, on advantageous terms and the lease of the old premises is likely to sell so well as to allow of a reduction "Bank premises" account.

The balance sheet to 31st December, 1901, with complete report of the Chairman speech at the meeting appears in this issue, to both of which we invite attention. The following is a synopsis of the statement with comparison of 1901 and 1900, the sterling being converted into currency at the rate of \$5 to the pound.

	1901.	1900.	Increase or dec
	\$	\$	\$
Reserve Fund.....	1,825,000	1,750,000	Inc 75,000
Deposits and Current ac.	15,755,600	15,623,000	Inc 132,600
Circulation.....	2,505,630	2,466,300	Inc 39,330
Cash or hand.....	3,589,700	4,021,900	Inc 432,200
Cash at call on short notice	7,959,000	5,028,600	Inc 2,930,400
Securities.....	2,468,900	1,42,1200	Inc 1,047,700
Discounts, and loans.....	24,050,000	23,988,900	Inc 61,100

A striking feature in the above statement is the remarkably large amount of cash on hand, and immediately available at the command of the Bank. Taking the actual cash held and securities which are promptly convertible into cash, the Bank has \$14,017,600 in cash at control. The cash actually in hand is in the proportion of 39 per cent. to the liabilities payable on demand, while the total cash immediately available considerably exceeds the total liabilities which are payable on demand. Such conditions place the Bank of British North America in an exceptionally strong position. The securities have been increased since 1900 by provincial and municipal bonds of this Dominion to extent of \$925,000, which are worth more in the