

occasion to meet at all. In 1887-88 and 1888-89, the building was in course of erection, and the committee, though still composed of only three members, cost the Council, respectively \$306 and \$194. Yet in 1889, in face of the fact that during these two years it had cost just \$500, so little did the Council then regard the danger of its ever again, with its strictly curtailed functions, becoming a source of material expense, that it deliberately, by By-law No. 39, then made and passed, raised its membership from three to five.

It is further a noteworthy fact that it is only since 1889 that the profession has been systematically defrauded of its rightful voice and influence in the Executive Committee, and that this injustice, flagrant enough before, has become more distinctly accentuated since 1895, when the territorial representation in the Council was increased from twelve to seventeen members.

2. It was further contended that if, notwithstanding the limitation of its functions in or about 1881, the committee was still liable to become an expensive institution—which the Financial Returns show has not been the case—the proper way to reduce its actual or prospective cost would be, not either to fly in the face of a Council By-law, or, to sacrifice justice to economy, but to still further curtail its functions, and to require it to reach such interim decisions, as may be found necessary, rather by epistolary correspondence than by formal meetings. A second and perhaps surer way of reaching the same end, would be to cut off altogether the monetary consideration now paid to its members—this, especially, in view of the fact, that the Ontario Medical Act neither contemplates nor authorizes the payment of a per diem allowance to the members of it or of any other Council committee.

To this it might have been added that, if the Council really desires to economize, there exist other and far larger leaks than this is ever likely to prove, to the stoppage of which, it might very properly direct its efforts. The dishonesty of the whole objection, on the ground of expense, is further shown by the fact that, it is only when justice is claimed or an act of grace asked for on behalf of the profession, that the "Ruling Alliance of Sixteen" becomes so suddenly and violently afflicted with the erethism of economy. And, as an object-lesson on the penny-wise and pound-foolish policy of the Council in this matter, attention may be directed to the fact that, purely owing to the absence of such a restraint as a properly constituted territorial representation on that committee would have exerted, it has been so worked during the past two years, by interests hostile to the profession, as to cause a financial loss to the Council aggregating nearly \$2,000. It instituted