

Correspondence.

THE STATUS OF MEDICAL MEN UNDER THE NEW INSURANCE BILL.

For upwards of three years this Act, in some form, was before the Parliament of Canada. Ample time was, therefore, taken to consider every section, and note carefully its bearing upon the interests affected. There was thus given also an opportunity for those who wished to offer any suggestions or raise any objection to place their views before the Government.

When the Life Insurance Bill was laid on the table of the House of Commons, it at once became apparent that there were three clauses that were very objectionable, from the standpoint of the medical profession. These clauses were in the first draft, and are still in the Act as passed by Parliament.

Under "Interpretation," or the definitions at the beginning of the Act, we have:

(h) "'Officer' includes the manager, secretary, treasurer, actuary, and any other person designated as 'officer' by the by-laws of the Company."

In section 98, sub-section 4, dealing with Life Insurance Companies that were in operation when the Act came in force, we read:

"The manager of the Company may be a director of the Company, but no agent or paid officer, other than the manager, shall be eligible to be elected as a director. The words 'paid officer' in this sub-section do not include the President, Vice-President, or the President and First Vice-President, if more than one, elected under the provisions of sub-section 9 of this section."

The next clause, to which objection was raised by many medical men, deals with Life Insurance Companies that may be organized after the passing of the Act. It is as follows:

Section 146, sub-section (f): "The manager of a Company may be a director, but no agent or paid officer, other than the manager, shall be eligible to be elected as director. The words 'paid officer' in this paragraph do not include the President and Vice-President, or the President and the First Vice-President, if there is more than one Vice-President, elected under the provisions of paragraph (k) of this section."