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# KINGSTON MEDICAL QUARTERLY.

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## MEDICAL FACULTY, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

ON April 9th last the Medical Faculty closed its 49th session with a very successful Convocation. The Medical Faculty began its career in 1854 and opened classes with eight students. During the past 49 years it has had many ups and downs, but the loyalty of her graduates and the faithful discharge of their duties by those who at various times have held

positions as professors, have enabled her to surmount all difficulties and have placed her to-day in her prosperous condition. Four years ago there were in attendance, 125 students. During the past session there were 204. Four years ago the building occupied by the Faculty was found to be inadequate for the purposes of a Medical School, both as to its size and its equipment. The Faculty determined to remedy these defects. At a cost of about \$12,000.00 they increased the size of the building and equipped the necessary laboratories. It was then thought that all had been done in this direction that would require to be done for many years. However the growth of the institution has been so rapid that the Faculty now finds itself face to face with the same difficulty, lack of space and laboratory accommodation. The Board of Trustees of the University recognizing the good work being done by the Medical Faculty and realizing that this side of the University is a strength to the whole institution, has decided to come to the assistance of the Faculty and give them the required increased accommodation. Next session the classes in Biology, Physiology and Histology will be conducted in the class rooms and laboratories in the old Arts building. This arrangement will materially relieve the congestion in the Medical building, and will enable the Faculty to provide better laboratory facilities for the classes in Pathology, Bacteriology and Pharmacy.

At the Convocation Sir Sandford Fleming took the chair and called upon Rev. M. Macgillivray, who opened the proceedings with prayer. The Chancellor then gave a short address reviewing the work of the Medical Faculty during the session just closing. The scholarships and prizes were then presented to the winners by various members of the Faculty. The successful candidates for the M.D. and C.M. degrees were then presented by the Secretary to the Chancellor who pronounced the words which made each of them a Doctor of Medicine and Master of Surgery.

Dr. J. L. McDowall on behalf of his classmates, then read the Valedictory Address. This address was couched in well rounded sentences and possessed the merit of being discourteous

to none, nor unduly laudatory of any. One or two suggestions were made which we think the Faculty would do well to consider. We trust that in our next issue we will be able to give this address in full.

Principal Gordon then addressed the newly made doctors. As this was the new Principal's first address at a Convocation of Queen's, it was looked forward to with more than ordinary interest. To say that the Principal fully realized the expectations of his warmest friends is not unduly praising this, his first baccalaureate address. His remarks were replete with sound advice, placed before the graduating class a high and exalted ideal of the profession they had chosen, was clothed in well chosen language, displayed a knowledge of the Medical profession which must have astonished the student, was replete with humor and at times was truly eloquent. The unanimous opinion of those who heard him, was that Principal Gordon was a worthy successor of his worthy predecessor, and that the interests of Queen's were more than safe in his hands.

Convocation was closed by Rev. M. Macgillivray pronouncing the benediction.

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## SAWDUST AND FISH.

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UNDER a Dominion statute it is illegal to pass sawdust into streams or rivers containing protected fish. When the act was passed many years ago, it was generally believed that sawdust was very poisonous to fish. Now, however, the Dominion Fish Commissioner, Professor Prince, denies that any healthy adult fish has ever been killed by sawdust. On the other hand, Mr. Bastedo, the Ontario Fish Commissioner, says that nothing is more destructive to fish life than sawdust, and he proposes to enforce the law vigorously. Last summer three mill owners were fined for violating the Dominion Act. Under these circumstances, Professor Knight's article, reprinted from the transactions of *The Canadian Institute*, is timely. In the light of what he reveals, it is quite clear that the Ontario Executive should discontinue its crusade against mill owners, at least for the present; and that the Honourable Mr. Prefontaine should instruct the Dominion Fish Commissioner to institute a thorough investigation into the whole subject.

Some of our readers, during their all too brief holidays, are enthusiastic anglers. They, as well as lumbermen and fishermen, are vitally interested in this question. The sooner, therefore, it is settled beyond all doubt the better. We would suggest that our readers write either to their representatives at Ottawa or directly to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and urge upon him the necessity for prompt action.

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