

"It is further resolved that in the opinion of this Association the profession of medicine in the country, being actuated in this matter solely in the best interests of the public welfare and with an earnest wish to place Canada on a par with other civilized countries is entitled to expect that the Honourable the Privy Council of Canada will at an early date take this question into its best consideration so that by the time our Association meets again in the Autumn of 1904 we will be made officially acquainted with the decision.

"That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted by the Secretary to the Right Honourable the Prime Minister, to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and to the Honourable the Privy Council of Canada through the Hon. R. W. Scott, Secretary of State."

The efforts to establish a Health Department for Canada meets with our hearty approval, and we hope that the time is not far off when the Government of Canada shall act in this matter.

FOUR WORTHY ASSOCIATIONS.

1. First comes the Canadian Medical Association. This is our national medical association and should be well supported by all the provinces. This association has done much for the medical profession of Canada in the past, and is destined to do still more in the future. It meets in Vancouver sometime in August, and it is to be hoped that the attendance will be large. No doubt many of the eastern men will avail themselves of the reduced rates to pay a visit to the western provinces, which promise so much for the future of the Country. The president, Dr. Tunstall, of Vancouver, and his associates are making great efforts to secure a large attendance and to provide an excellent programme of papers and social functions. Dr. Tunstall paid a visit to the eastern cities a short time ago in the interests of the Association. When in Toronto, he met a considerable number of practitioners at the King Edward Hotel, and was greatly encouraged by the promises of assistance he received on that occasion. In further issues we shall have more to say upon this subject, but, in the meantime, we urge upon as many as possible to attend the meeting, and take part in it by contributing papers, or exhibiting cases.

2. Next comes the Ontario Medical Association. This is our provincial association, and deserves well at the hands of the profession of the province. It is impossible to estimate how much this association has done for the medical interests of the profession of Ontario. It is an annual period of reunion and takes the place of a short post graduate course of study.

Much useful information is distributed at these annual gatherings. It is not asking too much to suggest that it would be more in the right direction if practically all the practitioners of the province sent in their annual fees, even if they could not attend the meeting. This would enable the officers to issue the proceedings in book form, of which the members would receive a copy. At the meetings in June 1903, Mr. I. H. Cameron, of Toronto, moved, seconded by Dr. McKinnon, of Guelph, that at the meeting of 1904 the Ontario Medical Association shall become a branch of the British Medical Association. This will require careful consideration. If it means the taking of the British Medical Journal, the annual fee will become \$5.00 at least. A week prior to Dr. Ross's departure for Egypt and other eastern places, he entertained at dinner at the King Edward Hotel the officers and members of the various committees. At this gathering, the affairs of the Association were fully discussed, and many of the preliminary arrangements completed. On this occasion, Dr. Tunstall, of Vancouver, and Dr. J. Alex. Hutchinson, of Montreal, were present. Much useful work was done for the Canadian Medical Association as well as for the Ontario Medical Association.

3. The third association that should appeal to every physician in Canada is the Canadian Medical Protective Association. At another page, we give much valuable information regarding this Association. On former occasions we have called attention to the splendid work this association is doing for its members. But why should it not be in a position to do the same for every practitioner in the Dominion? The officers of this Association are now making an appeal for additional members; and we sincerely trust the appeal shall not be in vain, but yield excellent results. Those who are members, or who intend now to remit their fees, can be of great service to the Association by speaking to their neighboring practitioners, and doing a little missionary work for the Association. A study of the suits against practitioners reveals the facts that in almost every instance the suit is an unjust one, and the plaintiffs have no means. This means that these suits are usually speculative ones, and that the defendants, when they win, cannot recover their costs. The expenses in these cases are always heavy. Mutual co-operation among the doctors for their own protection against such actions is one of the most praiseworthy efforts before their attention at the present moment. The Annual fee is \$2.50; which is the only source of revenue, but it is enough if the profession will only respond to the call of the officers, who are: President, Dr. R. W. Powell, Ottawa; Vice-President, Dr. J. Camariud, Sherbrooke; Treasurer, Dr. J. A. Grant, Jr., Ottawa; and Secretary, Dr. F. W. McKinnon, Ottawa.

4. The fourth association for which we wish to speak a good word is the Ontario Medical Library Association. There is now a large collection of books, and the list is growing rapidly. The time has come when there ought to be a home for this valuable collection. In time, the profession in Ontario would accumulate a valuable library. All over the province there are doctors who could donate books or journals, and aid by an annual or occasional fee. The home for the library would also be a sort of head quarters, or Toronto home for the profession of Ontario.

SOME FEATURES IN THE LIFE OF GERMS.

It is now settled beyond dispute that the same germ does not always produce the same result. The conditions of the animal that is experimented upon influences the effects of the germs very much. If a pigeon be starved it is a ready prey to anthrax; but can resist it if well fed. Fowls are susceptible only when chilled. Young rats are sensitive, whereas old ones can resist the infection.

It is impossible, in the laboratory, to duplicate some of the experiments produced by disease-germs and the condition of the animal attacked. While it is true that the pneumococcus is the cause of pneumonia, still it appears that a chill to the skin is necessary to give rise to the conditions that favor the growth of the germ. In like manner, the germs that inhabit the genito-urinary channels remain dormant until a distended bladder is emptied, or the person has a chill, or suffers the shock of an operation, when cystitis, or pyelitis may suddenly appear.

Much of the injurious effects of germs in the body may be due to the dead proteids that accompany their growth. Large quantities of dead or living harmless bacteria injected into the system may prove fatal by the contamination of the blood by these proteids. The hay bacillus can be as fatal as are dead, or living, pathogenic germs. This would tend to narrow down the specific influence of germs, apart from the effects of their products.

The colon bacillus and the bacillus typhosus have some close affinities. There are some high authorities who regard them as modifications of the same germ, as descended from a common ancestral form. The colon bacillus is now natural to the intestinal canal, and may be a modified form of the bacillus typhosus. On the other hand, the colon bacillus under certain conditions of an unsanitary character may become the bacillus typhosus. In the normal condition of the intestines there is reason for the opinion that the colon bacillus performs some useful purpose. If the conditions are changed and the intestines are injured,