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AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE
MEDICAL PROFESSION OF
TORONTO

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After the Peace of Versailles, in 1783, the enforced migration of United Empire Loyalists brought some ten thousand exiles, who had risked and lost all for their attachment to king and country, to seek new homes in the northern wilderness, and this constituted the first considerable settlement of the province of Upper Canada.

The sudden influx of a class cemented by the rigours of war, the harshness of the victors and the hardships of the pioneer; the extent to which they acquired possession of the lands of the province and the control of affairs in general which naturally fell into their hands, were unfortunately, perhaps inevitably, the source of many difficulties and much discussion in later years as the population increased by the immigration of more diverse elements from the mother country.

According to Sabine, their American historian, the Loyalists included a large representation of the official classes and the professions of law and divinity, the latter mostly of the Episcopal church. The remarkable fact that few doctors accompanied these exiles, is accounted for by Sabine on grounds reflecting no discredit upon the medical profession. "The physicians who adhered to the Crown were numerous and the proportion of Whigs was probably less in the profession of medicine than in either that of law or theology. But unlike the latter callings, most of the physicians remained in the country and quietly pursued their business. There seems to have been an understanding that though pulpits should be closed and litigation suspended, the sick should not be deprived of their regular and freely chosen medical attendants; . . . their persons and property were generally respected in the towns and villages, where little or no regard was paid to the bodies and estates of the gentleman of the robe and surplice."

A few medical officers of disbanded Loyalist regiments settled in the Lower Provinces, especially in New Brunswick, but some of these removed

to Upper Canada at a later date. To Canadians the best known of these American colonial regiments was the old "Queen's Rangers" commanded by Colonel John Graves Simcoe during the Revolutionary War. At the close of the war the regiment went out of commission, but on being appointed first governor of Upper Canada, Simcoe received authority from the Crown to organize a military force for service in the province. He named this regiment the "Queen's Rangers" in honour of his old command, and the important service it rendered in the settlement of York and the opening up of Yonge Street, before it was finally disbanded in 1802, is recorded in the early history of the province.

The medical needs of the small settlements gathered at first around the military posts and along the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes, were supplied by the medical officers of the garrisons. As population increased and settlements spread, the dearth of properly qualified practitioners, especially at a distance from the garrisons, led to the springing up of many quacks and irregulars, who menaced the lives of those by dire necessity obliged to consult them. In 1788 an Act, known as the Quebec Ordinance, was passed by the parliament of Canada, which provided under severe penalty, including fine and imprisonment, that no persons should practice medicine without a license from the governor or commander-in-chief of the province, upon certificate of examination and qualification by a board appointed by them for that purpose. University graduates in medicine and warranted army and navy surgeons were excluded from the necessity of examination. This attempt at control, however, did not have the desired effect, and a further legislative enactment occupied the attention of the first session of the parliament of Upper Canada at Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) in 1796. This Act provided for the appointment by the governor of the province of a medical board, to be composed of the surgeon to his Majesty's hospital, with the surgeons of his Majesty's regiment doing duty in the province, and all other authorized surgeons and practitioners, or any two of them, of whom the surgeon to his Majesty's hospital must be one, to examine and approve candidates for license to practice. This Act likewise proved unsatisfactory and was repealed in 1806.

That more effectual control was necessary is evident from an editorial in the *York Gazette*, October 8, 1808: "The opinion we maintain of such a public want, arises from the conviction we feel and the knowledge we possess, that the health, nay, frequently the existence of a fellow creature, is lost, being too often sacrificed to the pretensions or cannibal ignorance of empirics, quacks and imposters." The deplorable state of affairs continued and later engaged the interest and trenchant pen of the redoubtable Bishop Strachan and other public men, and finally resulted in legislation establishing the Medical Board of Upper Canada in 1818.

The creation of the Upper Canada Medical Board was the beginning of effective control of medical practice in the province. The board began its duties January 4, 1819, and continued to hold regular examinations and grant licences until 1839, when an Act of the provincial parliament was passed, constituting "The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada" with power to examine and licence and otherwise control medical affairs in the province.

This Act was claimed to infringe the rights of the Royal College of Surgeons and after a heated controversy, it was disallowed by the Imperial parliament. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada held its last meeting in 1841 and control of the examination and licensing of practitioners reverted to the Medical Board of Upper Canada and continued under its control until 1865. In 1841 the board appointed by the governor general, Lord Sydenham, consisted of Christopher Widmer, William C. Gwynne, Robert Hornby, Walter Telfer and Henry Sullivan. This medical board was subjected to many bitter attacks, and much criticism on the part of the profession during the period from 1833 until it finally went out of existence.

In 1865 the parliament of Canada passed "an Act to regulate the qualifications of practitioners of medicine and surgery in Upper Canada" by which was constituted the "General Council of Medical Education and Registration of Upper Canada," and this body began its duties January 1, 1866, and after Confederation, under authority granted in 1869 by *The Ontario Medical Act*, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario was created.

In order to maintain uniformity of examinations and control, provision was made for the admission not only of regular practitioners but also of eclectic and homeopathic practitioners

who had been in practice before 1850. Each of these was to have a fixed representation on the council as the executive body of the College was called. This was brought about by an agreement between the homeopaths, eclectic and regular practitioners to the repeal of Acts passed in 1859, 1861 and 1866, under which respectively, they had obtained legislation, with authority to examine and grant licence to practice in the province. The representation of the eclectic ceased without special enactment about 1875.

The population of Upper Canada at the time York was chosen as the capital in 1793 was about 12,000, composed almost wholly of United Empire Loyalists, disbanded soldiers, the garrisons and official personnel. During Simcoe's four years as governor, the population increased to about 30,000. The only evidences of a settlement at York at the time of Governor Simcoe's arrival, were the ruins of the old French fort Rouillé, (established in 1749 to protect the southern entrance to the overland trade route between Lake Ontario and the Georgian Bay), and a few wigwams of wandering Mississauga Indians.

Dr. James MacAulay, the progenitor of some of the most prominent families in the later history of the province, was induced to come to Upper Canada by his friend, Colonel Simcoe, as physician to his household. Arriving in 1792 he was appointed surgeon to the "Queen's Rangers" and after the regiment was disbanded, he was made Deputy Inspector-General of hospitals of the province. His own name, that of his wife, and other members of his family are commemorated in the streets (Teraulay, Hayter, James, Buchanan, Alice, Edward, Elizabeth) of the district early known as MacAulay Village—later St. John's Ward. On the establishment of the Upper Canada Medical Board, he was elected chairman and continued to act in this capacity until his death in 1822. The name "Teraulay" was derived from the last syllables of Hayter (Mrs. MacAulay's maiden name) and MacAulay.

Dr. John Gamble, an Irishman, born 1755, graduated at Edinburgh and came to New York in 1779, as Dr. MacAulay's assistant surgeon. For a time he was attached to the old "Queen's Rangers" during the Revolutionary War, at the close of which he went to St. John, New Brunswick, where he practised for ten years. In 1793 Governor Simcoe appointed him assistant surgeon to the new "Queen's Rangers". When the regiment was disbanded he removed to Kingston where he had a large practice until his

death in 1811. One daughter married the Hon. Wm. Allen, and another Sir James Buchanan MacAulay, a son of Dr. James MacAulay and afterwards chief justice of Upper Canada. Neither Dr. MacAulay nor Dr. Gamble engaged in private practice at York, though in their official capacity, no doubt they were called upon at times to minister to the sick of their community.

William Warren Baldwin was the first civilian doctor to settle at York—about 1800. He was a graduate of Edinburgh and had practised for a year or so in the old land before coming to Canada. The field of his professional work for a man of his energy and capacity was obviously too restricted, and as there was an insufficient number of lawyers at this time to carry on the work of the courts, Governor Hunter in 1803, designated William Warren Baldwin and three others as fit and proper persons to practise the law. "Having sprung Minerva-like at once into being in full professional maturity, these gentlemen were afterwards sometimes alluded to by less favoured brethren of the robe as the "heaven descended barristers." The various important duties which Dr. Baldwin undertook, however, is evidence of his energy, ability and versatility—characteristics which he had in common with others of the early doctors of York. He was one of the founders, later a bencher, and for many years treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada. An interesting incident is related of his receiving an urgent call on one occasion to attend a lady when he was pleading a case before Mr. Justice Willcocks. The latter adjourned the court and on the doctor's return inquired for the patient. On being assured of her successful *accouchement*, the less pressing judicial proceedings were resumed, thus establishing an early Canadian precedent for the pre-eminence of medicine over the law. Dr. Baldwin laid out Spadina Avenue, as a splendid approach, 160 feet in width, to the family residence, Spadina House, on the site of the present building of the Provincial Board of Health—the old Knox College. Hon. Robert Baldwin, who distinguished himself in the political struggle for constitutional government in Upper Canada was a son of William Warren Baldwin.

Intimately associated with the ruling families of that day and connected by marriage with many of the prominent families in Upper Canada, Drs. MacAulay, Gamble and Baldwin exerted a wide and salutary influence, socially and professionally on the medical interests of York and the province in general.

Dr. David Burns was one of the first settlers of York, obtaining the patent of a park lot on Dundas Street, later known as Lot Street, now Queen Street. Soon after the organization of the government, he was appointed clerk of the Crown in Chancery for the province of Upper Canada. There is no record of his having engaged in practice. His name appears in the list of subscribers to a fund for the opening up of Yonge Street, in 1801. He died in 1806, lamented as an esteemed citizen.

William Lee, a military surgeon attached to the Indian department came to York in 1807. He ministered to the Indians, making visits through the forests as far as Penetanguishene. He was relieved of his strenuous duties in 1815 and shortly afterwards was appointed Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to the legislative council and for some years was secretary to the Upper Canada Medical Board.

Available records do not mention the names of any other doctors practising in York before 1812, but when it is remembered that it requires a community of from five hundred to a thousand to maintain the services of a physician, it is evident that the needs of the restricted field were already well supplied. When Dr. Strachan removed from Cornwall to York in 1812, the town was "only a quiet little parish" and according to Bishop Bethune the population in 1819 was less than 1,200.

There was a new-comer to York in 1812 in the person of Dr. Grant Powell, son of Hon. Justice William Dummer Powell. He had received his medical training at Guy's Hospital, and practised for three years in New York state and for five years in Montreal, where he was familiarly known as "the little doctor with the gold spectacles." He was not enamoured of practice in York, but it was well known that he took an interest in medical affairs, and was one of the first members of the Upper Canada Medical Board. He was also clerk of the legislative assembly, principal of the Court of Probate, and later judge of the Home District and clerk of the legislative council, holding the latter post until his death in 1838. His son, William Dummer Powell, died in early manhood and his widow married Dr. William Clarke of Guelph, the father of the late lieutenant governor of Ontario, Hon. Lionel Clarke, Esq.

Incidentally, it is of interest to recall the visit of Dr. William Beaumont, celebrated physiologist and pioneer in the experimental physiology of digestion, who arrived at York, April 27, 1813, not

to minister to the inhabitants, but as surgeon to the American forces attacking the town. He wrote a graphic account of the attack on York and the subsequent treatment of the wounded.

In 1814 William Dunlop, then a youth of nineteen attached to the 89th (Irish) regiment, was at York for a time and describes the place as "a dirty, straggling, village of about sixty houses, the church—the only one—being converted into a general hospital during the war." This was the first hospital at York. Dr. Dunlop afterwards went to India with his regiment, but returned to Canada in 1825 with Mr. John Galt and entered the service of the Canada Company as warden of the Forest. He was one of the founders of Guelph, and a pioneer of the Lake Huron district. As an official of the Canada Company, he was a frequent visitor and a familiar figure in York during the thirties. He was a warm friend of John Galt, author and philosopher, who as manager of the Canada Company, did much to settle the western part of the province and was ill-requited for his labors. Herculean in size, witty, kind-hearted and eccentric, Dunlop was a notable character familiarly known as the Tiger. He had considerable literary ability being a contributor to Fraser's, Blackwoods and other magazines and the author of several books. He served as member for the Huron district in the provincial legislature. An extract from his extraordinary last will and testament sufficiently indicates his peculiarities: "I, William Dunlop, of Gairbraid in the township of Colborne, county and district of Huron, Western Canada, Esquire, being in sound health of body, and my mind just as usual, which my friends who flatter me say is no great shakes at the best of times, do make this my last will and testament, etc."

He died in 1848 and the citizens of Goderich erected a monument to the memory of "a man of surpassing talent, knowledge and benevolence."

Dr. William Keating, an Irish graduate, practised in York for a short time about 1816.

He and Powell were succeeded by Dr. Christopher Widmer, F.R.C.S. (*Eng.*) a distinguished practitioner who was the first to devote his entire time to practice in York. His name is associated with every medical enterprise, and his energy, ability and foresight made him a dominating influence from the time of his arrival until his death in 1858.

Widmer was educated in London and gained a wide experience as surgeon to the 89th Light Dragoons during the Peninsular War. He came

to Canada about the close of the War of 1812 and began private practice in 1816. He was a martinet—forceful in language as well as in bearing; bluff and cavalier, but nevertheless an able, farseeing, diplomatic man and a born leader. He initiated the movement in 1817 for establishing the York General Hospital, was chairman of the Upper Canada Medical Board from 1823 until his death in 1858, was early interested in medical education, receiving students as apprentices; he was a chief mover in the establishment of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada (1839), and one of the founders of the medical department of King's College, (1843), besides taking an active interest in the affairs of York generally. For a time he was a member of the legislative assembly, and was one of the founders of St. Andrew's Masonic Lodge. He has justly been called the "Father of Surgery" in Upper Canada and until 1830 practically controlled the practice of York.

About 1816 Dr. Robert Charles Horne, a military surgeon came to York from Kingston where he had married a daughter of Dr. Gamble. He did not take up private practice, but became King's Printer and editor of the *Official Gazette*. After retiring from these appointments, he entered the service of the Bank of Upper Canada, but remained a member of the Upper Canada Medical Board from 1823 to 1831, and at a later date was elected treasurer of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada. His house was burned by order of the rebel leaders during the Rebellion of 1837, the family barely escaping with their lives.

In 1828 Dr. Peter Deihl an Edinburgh graduate (1809) came from Montreal to be associated in practice with Widmer and later became a member of the Medical Board. He married a daughter of Dr. James MacAulay. For a short time he was an attending physician to the Montreal General Hospital before coming to York.

From the foregoing remarks it will be noted that the military surgeons played an important part in the early days of the medical profession in Upper Canada. They were men of education and culture, with an excellent practical training and knowledge of the world obtained during their military service. They had received their chief education in London and Edinburgh, and some of them had studied in Paris as well.

After 1825 civilian doctors from the motherland, Canadians educated in American schools, or at McGill University in Montreal, or under the

system of apprenticeship, began rapidly to increase in numbers; nevertheless, the control and direction of medical affairs for many years remained largely in the hands of the military element. Family ties, church and political sympathies, all inclined the early doctors of York toward the party afterwards known as the Family Compact, whose dominating influence was challenged as the population of the province rapidly increased after the War of 1812.

Of 260 doctors whose biographies appear in Canniff's *History of the Medical Profession of Upper Canada from 1783 to 1850*, seventy-one were graduates of the Scottish universities, forty-three of English, twenty-eight of Irish and forty of American. Thirty-nine had their training wholly or in part under the old system of apprenticeship, ten were graduates of McGill, eleven of the Rolph School, and a few of King's College.

The estrangement of the American colonies from the motherland had an important bearing upon the subsequent evolution of the medical profession of the United States and Canada respectively which should not be overlooked. After the Revolution the tendency on the part of American graduates was to go to Paris, and at a later period to Vienna or Berlin for further study, rather than to the British schools. For this reason continental influences exercised a more powerful influence in moulding the ethics, education and practice of the American than of the Canadian profession, for medicine in Canada had its origin and received its impetus from the medical centres of the motherland—especially, London, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

The political, religious and family affiliations before noted, will suggest the causes of a cleavage in the stormy days before and after the Rebellion of 1837, in the ranks of the medical profession of York corresponding to that of the population in general.

Dr. John Rolph became an outstanding figure among the malcontents. He was the son of Dr. Thomas Rolph who came to Canada from Gloucestershire about 1810, settling in Norfolk county where he acquired a large tract of land. As a youth of nineteen, John Rolph was in York in 1812, and during the war acted as paymaster to the forces. At the close of the war he returned to England and took up the study of law and medicine concurrently, the former at the Inner Temple, the latter at Guy's Hospital under Sir Astley Cooper. He returned to Upper Canada and began the practice of both professions in Norfolk

county, though he did not pass the Upper Canada Medical Board until 1828. At first his interest centred in law and politics. In the former he rose rapidly until he was recognized as a leader at the bar; was a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada and his political advancement was marked by his election as Reform member for Middlesex in 1824. In 1828, being dissatisfied with a judgment of Mr. Justice Sherwood, he threw off his gown and in company with Dr. William Warren Baldwin and his son, Robert Baldwin, left the court. At this time, it is stated, he thought of entering the church but finally decided to devote his energies to medicine. He practised for a short time at Dundas but removed to York in 1831. The year after Rolph's arrival in York is notable in the medical history of the town from the fact that it was visited by an epidemic of cholera, the infection following the stream of immigration from Quebec to Montreal, Kingston and finally to York.

Dr. Strachan, who rendered notable service to the stricken population states that the epidemic raged from June to October, during which period one-fourth of the inhabitants suffered from the disease, of whom one-third died.

Shortly after Rolph's coming to York he was appointed a member of the Medical Board of Upper Canada and when the town was incorporated as the City of Toronto in 1834, he was elected an alderman. The Reformers had gained a majority in the council, and as the aldermen at that time selected one of their own number as mayor, it was expected that Rolph would have received the honour of being chosen first chief magistrate. As the result of a caucus, however, William Lyon Mackenzie was selected and Rolph resigned from the council.

One need not dwell on his entanglement in the political dissensions culminating in the Rebellion of 1837, his hurried flight, facilitated by two of his students, Henry Hoover Wright and James H. Richardson, afterwards distinguished as professors and practitioners in Toronto. He practised for six years in Rochester, when he was pardoned and returned to Toronto in 1843. The remainder of Dr. Rolph's career is intimately associated with medical education, and will be referred to later in that connection. He died at Mitchell in October, 1870, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, regarded generally in his profession as an outstanding figure, and the most brilliant teacher among the many distinguished men of his time.

The necessity for providing facilities for the training of students of medicine was in the minds of those who obtained the charter for King's College in 1827. Though for political reasons it was deemed unfortunate, yet young men of the province entering the profession of medicine were forced by circumstances to go to American schools, of which Fairfield, Geneva, Dartmouth and Jefferson were usually selected; some went to McGill after its establishment in 1824.

Christopher Widmer, John Rolph, John King and other prominent doctors of York received students as apprentices for the whole or part of their training. Rolph's capacity as a teacher was early recognized and he was urged to establish a medical school towards the maintenance of which the governor, Sir John Colborne, encouraged him with the promise of public support.

In 1834 Dr. David Lithgow, a recently arrived graduate of Edinburgh University, announced the opening of a school for the teaching of anatomy, surgery and medicine, but nothing came of this premature enterprise. The delay in the establishment of King's College, and Rolph's flight from Canada after the collapse of the Mackenzie Rebellion (1837), postponed for a time the movement for a medical school, though the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Upper Canada (1839-1841), strongly urged the necessity for action. Widmer, especially, was active in formulating plans for a medical department in King's College, and, due largely to his efforts, a teaching faculty in medicine was organized when the institution was opened in 1843.

John King was appointed professor of medicine; William R. Beaumont of surgery; George Herrick of midwifery; William B. Nicol of materia medica; Henry Sullivan was placed in charge of practical anatomy; W. C. Gwyne of anatomy and physiology and James H. Richardson was made demonstrator of anatomy. In 1845 Lucius O'Brien was appointed professor of medical jurisprudence, and E. M. Hodder was added to the staff.

On Rolph's return from Rochester in 1843 he opened a school in opposition to the newly created medical faculty of King's College, and between these institutions naturally there developed a keen rivalry. Rolph was ably supported by Dr. Joseph Workman who afterwards attained a distinguished position among the medical men of Toronto. Other members of the staff of the Rolph school were T. D. Morrison, James Langstaff, W. T. Aikins and W. B. Geikie.

In 1849 King's College was secularized and the name changed to the University of Toronto by the Baldwin Act.

In 1850 the Upper Canada School of Medicine was organized by Edward M. Hodder, James Bovell, Francis Badgley, Norman Bethune, William Hallowell and Henry Melville and soon after it became the medical department of Trinity University, which had just been established under Anglican auspices by Bishop Strachan. There were, therefore, three medical schools in Toronto in 1850: (1) the medical department of the University of Toronto; (2) the Toronto School of Medicine, commonly known as the Rolph School; and (3) the Upper Canada School of Medicine.

This multiplicity of schools naturally did not lessen the rivalry; the unhappy case of the medical student of that time is indicated in an extract from an editorial in the *Medical Chronicle* of Montreal in 1855: "Be he ever so brilliant his fate may be doomed when it is whispered that he did not attend 'our' school and his examinations cannot be begun without first discovering whose classes he followed. Rolph men sitting in judgment on the Trinity youths and the Trinity men on the Rolph youths. The ex-professors of Toronto University struggling against both parties, or joining either one as the diversion seemeth most delightful." That we have not overdrawn the subject, we quote from the correspondent: "no candidate is examined by his own teachers but by some of the other members present, who are chiefly connected with rival institutions." The editorials in the *Medical Chronicle*, however, indicate that there existed a strong rivalry, not only between McGill and the Toronto schools, but also between the medical boards of Upper and Lower Canada.

In 1853 Rolph became a member of the government of Sir Francis Hincks and due largely to his influence, the medical department of the University of Toronto was disestablished along with the other *teaching* departments in 1854. All the medical schools of the province became affiliated with the provincial university thus reorganized, which remained only an examining body after the pattern of the University of London.

The Toronto School of Medicine (Rolph's School), became the medical department of Victoria University in 1855 with a strong faculty including John Rolph (surgery), Joseph Workman (midwifery), and W. T. Aikins (anatomy).

The medical department of Trinity went out of

existence in 1856 and the same year the charter of the Toronto School of Medicine was revived by a number of doctors who organized the institution in affiliation with the University of Toronto with Edward M. Hodder as Dean.

In 1866 the *École de Médecin et de Chirurgie* of Montreal, was constituted a medical department in Quebec of Victoria University and continued in this relationship until Victoria federated with the University of Toronto in 1890.

In 1868 the medical faculty of Victoria was constituted as follows: John Rolph, medicine and pathology; Walter B. Geikie, midwifery; Walter Berryman, materia medica, therapeutics and jurisprudence; John N. Reed, institutes of medicine; John Sangster, chemistry and botany; William Canniff, surgery and surgical anatomy; John Fulton, anatomy; John King and Christopher Widmer Rolph, clinical medicine and surgery; Michael Barrett, demonstrator of anatomy; Thomas May, curator of the museum. The Victoria medical school was a strong institution until 1870 when a disagreement arose; Rolph and Geikie resigned from the staff and the faculty was eventually broken up in 1875.

The Trinity faculty was re-established in 1871, Hodder leaving the Toronto School to become Dean of the resuscitated institution and he was joined by W. B. Geikie, Norman Bethune, William R. Beaumont, William Hallowell, John Fulton, James A. Temple, Arthur Jukes Johnson, Charles Covernton, William Kennedy and McLarty. In 1878 Trinity obtained a charter as an independent teaching body, closely associated with Trinity University but affiliated with other Canadian universities. Under the leadership of W. B. Geikie, Trinity opposed state aid for medical education and a long and acrimonious controversy resulted before such assistance was finally recognized as necessary. Dr. J. A. Temple was Dean of the Trinity Medical School at the time of amalgamation.

For many years the Toronto School of Medicine continued to draw closer to the University of Toronto and finally became re-established as its medical department in 1889.

The Women's Medical College was organized by Michael Barrett who was Dean from 1884 to 1887.

It is somewhat bewildering to trace the fortunes and kaleidoscopic changes of the various schools and their university connections between 1850 and 1875 when the Trinity School and the Toronto School emerged as the only survivors of the struggle for existence in an overcrowded field.

The movement toward federation of the universities continued to gain strength and a growing appreciation gradually developed of the difficulty of adequately supporting the requirements of modern scientific training in medicine by private means; a sentiment opposed to proprietary schools with a desire to pave the way for an era of expansion, reconstruction and reorganization, lead eventually to the amalgamation of Trinity and the Women's Medical College with the medical department of the University of Toronto in 1903. This school thus constituted has become one of the largest and most important on the continent with between 600 and 700 students and over eighty of a teaching staff*.

The evolution of the medical school as an integral part of the University, the provision of modern hospital buildings, laboratories, equipment, adequate financial support, the opportunities for better staff-organization, represent the realization of the visions, the efforts and the sacrifices of men who had done their best under more primitive conditions. Those who enjoy the fruits of their labours cannot in fairness fail to recognize the good work of the old proprietary schools in training practitioners who served well their day and generation.

The recent epoch making discovery of insulin by Frederick G. Banting and his collaborators—Professor J. J. R. Macleod, Charles H. Best, J. B. Collip and others, has directed the attention of the medical world to Toronto, and is too well known to require further comment. It serves as an indication of the scientific activities of the present time, and the impetus given to medical research by the generous support of the province of Ontario, the citizens of Toronto and the Rockefeller Foundation. During the past year, under the leadership of Sir William Mulock, Chancellor of the University, a half million dollars was raised to establish the Banting Medical Research Endowment.

*Dr. R. A. Reeve was first Dean of the amalgamated institution and discharged the duties of the office at a critical period with marked ability and satisfaction.