

61. Tell us, if you can, what experience the student gets in the out-patient department?—I do not know so much about that. Formerly the out-patient department was very perfunctorily carried on by the House Surgeon, but now there are Assistant Physicians and Assistant Surgeons who attend regularly every day, and the students attend pretty well, I believe. But part of the work is carried on while University lectures are going on, and the students have very often to leave early. I can say nothing from my personal knowledge.

62. Do you know whether there has been reform in regard to that in late years—that the out-patients' department has been made more available for students than it was?—A new out-patient department has been built, so there is much more accommodation. The old accommodation was very poor indeed, and the work of it was carried on under very great disadvantages; but now a very good and complete out-patient room has been built, so there is much better opportunity for doing this work.

63. Do you know if the students use the out-patient department more than they used to?—I cannot answer that from my own knowledge.

64. With regard to Dr. Cameron and the work that he does at the University—X-ray work—will you tell us what you can about him and his work?—Dr. Cameron came to us as quite a young man with a good reputation for heart work at Home. He had gone to America and done special work in heart trouble, and he came with the reputation of being a good mechanical man. For heart work you need to work with fine instruments. When he applied for the position of radiologist he had an ordinary knowledge—no special knowledge; but he went over to Sydney and studied there for some two or three months. Since Dr. Cameron has been in charge of the X-ray department he has taken many thousands of X-ray photographs, and there is not a member of the staff who does not place the greatest possible confidence in his judgment, and who does not use his skill and experience practically every day, both in medicine and in surgery. We find his work is excellent. This matter was brought up at a meeting of the medical faculty the other day, and I was empowered to say specially that the members of the staff have the greatest confidence in Dr. Cameron's skill and knowledge, and are constantly consulting him about their cases.

65. I presume we may take it that in a young country like this a school must of necessity have been small at the start and must grow as the place grows?—Quite so.

66. Now, speaking with your experience of the whole thing, do you not think that those who started this school in the early days were thoroughly justified in doing so?—I do. I think it showed both courage and foresight.

67. What do you believe to be the effect of this school upon the community generally and upon the medical profession?—As far as the profession itself is concerned I think it has had a distinctly elevating effect on the whole profession in New Zealand. I am sure it has had that in regard to our own community in Dunedin. It has made men do much more and much better work, and it has, I think, encouraged them to respect other men for knowledge that perhaps they themselves did not possess. The surgeon recognizes perhaps that the physician knows a little more about medicine than he does, and the physician recognizes that the surgeon has a skill and an aptitude which he does not possess, and I think that has been altogether for the good of the profession and the community generally. In regard to students I am of opinion that we have the pick of young New Zealand, and I would say that the quality has never been better than it is at present. That means that we are getting the best men that New Zealand can give us.

68. I do not suppose you want to lead the Committee to think that the school is perfect?—I hope not.

69. And that there is not room for further development?—When it is perfect we may order its coffin, I think. There are many faults. It has not been my business to recite those faults, and I do not think it is a wise thing to do. What seemed to me to be my business was to put before you the positive work that the school has done. There it is in the record of those one hundred and fifty men and women who are practising medicine up and down New Zealand.

70. You know what the school has done; you know it is not perfect and that it must develop: do you think that the State is justified in providing means to develop this school as necessities arise?—I think that in common honesty the State ought to step in and do it. The State has allowed one small part of the community to pay out of its pockets to a large extent the expenses of the Medical School. We have educated men from every part of New Zealand, and we have sent doctors to every part of New Zealand, and I think that in common honesty the State ought to step in and say, "This is a national institution, although it has been mainly supported locally, and we will pay our share of the bill."

71. We do draw our students, do we not, from all over New Zealand?—Yes, from Auckland to the Bluff.

72. Do you think the people in the City of Dunedin have been specially generous towards this Medical School in the way of putting their hands in their pockets?—They have put their hands in their pockets freely. We have never asked them for anything that we did not get. I think that is a testimonial to the people and also to the school. They would not give us that help if they did not believe that we were doing good work, and they would not do it if they were not a generous people.

73. *The Chairman.*] You said, I think, that we have one hundred and fifty students: you mean, just now?—One hundred and fifty graduates who have passed through. I think I am understating rather than overstating it. I mean full-time graduates, and do not include those who have taken a part of the course. It was one hundred and thirty, I think, in 1910. We have, I am sure, had more than twenty since then.

74. Does the presence of the Medical School there draw many patients from outside the Otago District?—It is always very difficult to say. If a man gets a reputation for skill in any par-