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Editorial.

A MEDICAL LICENCE TO MARRY.

A BILL has been passed by the State Legislature of Colorado which will have most far-reaching effects, and which certainly will appreciably raise the health of a future generation. The measure provides that before a permit to marry can be obtained, a properly certified bill of general health, signed by a practising physician, shall be presented to the Bureau of Marriage Licenses. It speaks well for the conscience of the community that there was no strenuous opposition to the measure, which has now been signed by the Governor, and consequently becomes law. The Bill should certainly be most effective in dealing with hereditary diseases such as insanity, cancer, or leprosy. Formerly phthisis would also have been included in the list, but in the light of recent investigations it seems open to question whether phthisis is not an infectious, rather than a hereditary complaint. In any case, however, persons suffering from advanced phthisis would, we presume, not be allowed to marry under the Bill, and so would not be able to communicate the disease to their offspring by infection. There is no doubt that

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