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Editorial.

LEGISLATION FOR NURSES.

USTRALIAN papers, which we have just received, describe proceedings in the Legislative Assembly and Council at Melbourne last November and December, which are most significant and most important to Nurses. We refer especially to a discussion which took place upon the Factories and Shops Act Amendment Bill, because it is, so far as we are aware, the first occasion upon which trained Nurses have been especially considered in industrial legislation. A clause was inserted in the Bill to regulate the hours of Nurses in charitable Institutions and Hospitals in the Colony. It was proposed that "no person under the age of sixteen, or woman or girl, should work for hire or reward in any charitable Institution receiving aid from the State, for a longer time than fifty-two hours (excluding meal times) in any one week, or for a longer time than nine hours (excluding meal times) in any one day, except on one day of each week," when eleven hours' work might be done; that there should be an interval for a meal at least within every five hours; that no one should "be employed during any day as a Nurse, if previously employed on the same day at other work for eight hours, or for a previous page next page