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Editorial.

THE GRADUATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

A REGISTRATION BILL.

The current issue of *The Canadian Nurse* brings the news of a Special General Meeting of the Graduate Nurses' Association of Ontario convened for the purpose of considering "legislation and the necessary steps towards legislation." Miss Bella Crosby, the President, who was in the chair, explained that the object of the Association was to place the profession on a better basis, and to secure legislation for that end. Ever since May, she said, the Executive Committee had been considering the question, and eventually it was decided to obtain the services of a solicitor, explain to him what was desired, have a Bill drafted in legal form, and to call a meeting of the Association to decide upon the next step, meanwhile, Miss Crosby informed the meeting, that, by desire of the Executive, she had visited as many of the Associations as possible, to get them to voice their ideas about registration and legislation. She visited quite a number of the Associations, and in every instance there was a good gathering of nurses, all who spoke were anxious that some steps should be taken to secure legislation. "If," said Miss Crosby, "we are going to do any work that will tell in the building up of our profession, we must give our best thought to the subject. We must have high ideals, and try to get a vision of what we can accomplish as members of a profession, as responsible women."

The President then invited Mrs Pellatt, Convener of the Legislation Committee, to present its report, which was that having been given authority by the Executive to make preparations towards obtaining a Registration Bill, the Committee wrote to

all the Secretaries of the State Boards of Registration, asking for copies of their Bills, and for comments on the weak and strong points, together with reports of the operation of the laws in the different States. The answers received were very satisfactory. They then interviewed Mr. Ludwig, K.C., whose firm had done much work of a similar kind, and since then had worked under his advice. In order, added Mrs. Pellatt, to obtain funds for the work, the Committee got out a Florence Nightingale calendar and post card, both of which had sold well.

Mr. Ludwig then went through the Draft Bill clause by clause, explaining its provisions. "You," he said, "as an Association are seeking the right to use a certain name or form of letters indicating that you are qualified graduate nurses. That is the substance, I understand, of what you want. If the public thoroughly understood what your aims are I believe you would not meet with very much opposition to your proposed Bill.

"I suppose there are persons who think they should be allowed to practise medicine or one of the other professions without special training, although, I suppose, it will not be disputed by any person that a special training is desirable to properly qualify to practise any profession.

"Your Bill does not prevent any person from nursing who wishes to nurse. It simply provides, among other things, that no person shall have the right to use the letters or degree you intend to adopt as evidence that you are trained and qualified according to the standard of your Association . . .

"Your Bill, roughly speaking, must deal with two matters. It must incorporate you as an Association, and give you an existence

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