

affairs, have to develop a scheme which, without infringing upon the powers or even the susceptibilities of provincial legislatures, shall be of general application.

To do this demands statesmanship of no mean order, demands an intimate knowledge of the conditions of the profession in all parts of the Dominion, demands the greatest care and deliberation in drawing up each individual clause of the projected act, and demands, lastly, complete disinterestedness and absence of *parti pris* on the part of the framer. If any one has the capacity and has endeavoured to fulfil all these demands, it is our colleague; and if anything appears on the face of the projected measure to contradict these aims, it certainly has not been inserted with intent to cause strife or dissatisfaction.

As a consequence, we think that the measure, a draft of which we here print, will be found generally acceptable. Nay more, it only appears in its present form after having been subjected to the leading members of the profession from one end of the Dominion to the other. Still, despite all the care that has been taken, we are sorry to find that, in this province particularly, it has been subjected to very vigorous criticism, and what is more, that criticism, while largely we think unmerited and not germane, does contain certain elements that have force and cannot be passed over. In other words we think that certain clauses should be revised so as to show with absolute precision, both that the aim of the promoters is in no sense to infringe upon provincial and racial privileges, and to guard against the Bill, if passed, being employed by politicians as a lever to undermine the aforesaid privileges.

We would, however, assure the *Bulletin Medical* and our Quebec confrères that the first and only object in the projected bill is to improve the status and benefit the profession from one end of the Dominion to the other, and that there is no thought of the projected federal council interfering in the medical education in the various provinces, save and except in connection with the federal license, and no thought of so wording the measure as to make it subserve political ends. It is because this idea so filled the minds of the framers that the wording, which we admit is defective, of Section 4, Clause a. (not Clause c as stated in the *Bulletin Medical*), comes to be what it is. The defective nature of that paragraph has already been pointed out, for instance, at a recent meeting of the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society. In what is practically the preamble to the Bill, it was distinctly a mistake not to state first and foremost, the main object of the Council, which main object is to provide a means whereby students of medicine in the various provinces can obtain a license which will permit them to present themselves before the provincial councils and obtain the provincial license to practice without further examination.