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Editorial.

Charges of carelessness against hospitals, accompanied by suits for damages, have fortunately been rare in Canada. They are, however, not unknown, though we think, in most cases, the suit for damage has been brought against one of the hospital's medical officers. Such a case was recently tried in Montreal, where a medical man attached to our largest hospital was charged with removing a foot without the patient's consent. The case fortunately failed, inasmuch as it was proved beyond any doubt that the action of the surgeon was in the best interest of the patient. Still, from some remarks which were made by the judge, it was clear that in the case before him, the line of demarkation was closely touched, and that it would not have taken much to turn his judgment in the opposite direction. Medical opinion as to justifiable action does not always commend itself to the legal mind. In cases which we have known, and where it seemed clear that the action of Medical Corporations was in the very best interest of the public—the Courts have decided that the action taken was not legal. It must be remembered that the mental education of the medical and legal profession is different. The former looks