

training gained in the Royal Military College must be fully equal to the requirements for those who commence the study of medicine, and I therefore propose this motion.

Referred to Education Committee.

Dr. PHILIP moves, seconded by Dr. Henry, that a committee be appointed by the President to inquire into the advisability, or otherwise, of the Medical Council taking under its charge the examination and granting certificates to the graduating nurses of the various hospitals in the Province and send in a report during the present session of the Council.

Dr. PHILIP—As it is at present we have a good many hospitals throughout the provinces, in some of the smaller cities and towns, that have their own training schools attached to them, and they grant, on an examination by the Local Board, certificates to nurses. The object of my motion is to inquire whether it is advisable, or whether it is feasible, or whether the Council have power to grant under proper provisions, which would be inquired into, a certificate in order to make the certificate held by the nurses of more value than a certificate from the local hospitals. At the present time there are a good many—I know in Brantford we have an hospital, and a pretty large hospital too, and we graduate some nurses there every year, and a good many of our nurses have gone to Buffalo, Detroit, and other places, and if nurses in thus going out had a Provincial certificate with the “hall mark,” so to speak, of the Council upon it, it would be a great advantage to them, instead of merely obtaining the certificates, as they do now, from the various hospitals. This might be done, I think, without any expense to the Council. Of course this scheme would have to be elaborated upon by the committee to which it may be referred. I do not think it would cost a single cent to appoint the gentlemen who now compose the Local Board of Examining Physicians. I noticed a little paragraph in a newspaper, to the effect that legislation would be asked in connection with the Kingston Hospital, from the Government, to permit the issue of trained nurses’ certificates by hospitals having one hundred or more beds, to nurses trained in such hospitals. The Committee can inquire into this, and I would like the President to appoint a committee; and if the scheme is not feasible to carry

out at present session of the Council I might alter my notice of motion to read, that the Committee report at the next meeting of the Council, but for the present I will leave the motion as it is.

Dr. BRITTON—Have any overtures been made by any of the hospital authorities regarding this matter? I ask this because if we were to take the initiative it might possibly appear to some of the hospital authorities we were rather exceeding our duties. I should be most pleased to fall into line with this motion, provided we were sure that any of the hospital authorities were inclined in the same direction and had said anything concerning it, because they might construe such an action on our part as a reflection upon the certificates which they have already granted.

Dr. PHILIP—The authorities of our hospital in Brantford have spoken about it, and there is also this paragraph I have referred to in the newspaper about the Kingston Hospital.

Dr. BRITTON—Might I suggest that the motion be worded differently—that a committee be appointed to confer with the directorate of the different hospitals to see whether they approve of such a scheme, and if they thought it would be any advantage to them and would be another endorsement of their certificate which would be a benefit to their nurses, I should be only too glad to fall in line with it.

Dr. WILLIAMS—I think in the meantime our acts of parliament do not give us any such power. And if we had any thought of taking such action, one of the first things we should have to do would be to go to the Legislature and seek for power to deal with it. I think at the present time we have quite enough to do to deal with matters that come under our own acts and that we have full control of. We certainly have not any control, or right, or power under those acts to interfere in any way whatever; and that being the case, the only way we could get it would be by seeking fresh legislation, which I think at the present time would not be a very advisable course to pursue.

Dr. ROGERS—I was about to make the same remark, that under the Medical Act we, as a Council, have no power whatever to grant certificates to nurses; there is no section, or part of a section, or word in the Act which would allow us to do so; and, as Dr. Williams has said, before we