

are admirable. Speaking for the city of Montreal, we have in the five general hospitals, the Hotel Dieu, Montreal General, Notre Dame, Royal Victoria and Western Hospitals, nearly 800 beds. The number of students attending the three medical schools was last session 646 ; and considering that only about half—those of the third and fourth years—have access to the wards, there will be at least two beds for each student. The number of outdoor patients attending the five hospitals daily would aggregate at least 300, so that there could be no possible cause for complaint regarding both the quantity and quality of clinical material available in this city.

While on the subject of hospitals, I would take this opportunity of saying that the training schools attached to the large English hospitals are in a very flourishing condition, and are found to contribute not a little towards the thoroughness of the practical teaching. It was my intention to have referred at some length to the whole question of Nurses and Nursing, but the limits of this address forbid. I might say, however, while as a profession we feel the absolute necessity for the training school, and thoroughly appreciate the services of the well trained nurse, both in hospital and in private practice, there is the fear that the supply may exceed the demand. A project is on foot now, however, which may delay, if not actually prevent, such a result. I refer to the recent establishment by that most estimable and charitable woman, the Countess of Aberdeen, of the Victorian Order of Nurses—another outcome of the jubilee of our beloved Queen. Her Excellency's idea in establishing this Order is to supply the sparsely settled parts of our great Northwest, the outlying districts of Canada generally, and the poor in towns and cities with nursing aid. In this great work hundreds of nurses will in time be employed. The scheme, which is purely non-sectarian, and appeals to all, irrespective of nationality, when thoroughly worked out and more generally understood will become one of our national institutions. Let us wish it every success.

#### MEDICAL LEGISLATION IN CANADA.

Time will not permit of my discussing the subject of medical legislation in Canada at any length ; and, besides, you will find it very fully treated in the excellent Official Guide and Souvenir, prepared for you by the Executive Committee. In addition I might explain, however, that when the British American provinces became confederated in 1867, under the British North America Act, the governance of educational matters was taken away from the Federal authorities and handed over to the provinces, each to look after them in its own way. In consequence we have since had a curious complexity of Medical Legislation, there being practically no uniformity among the provinces in regard to standard of study or qualification for practice. Each province has its own medical board or medical council, as the case may be, which has the power to grant a licence to practise either after examination or on simply presenting the diploma of certain recognized universities. In the provinces of Ontario and British Columbia an examination is exacted ; in the others the licence is given under certain restrictions on presentation of the degree, although in the Maritime Provinces an examin-