

record also that to their honor be it said, over 190 trained nurses offered themselves when it became known that a nursing staff would be permitted to accompany the regiment. Very soon it transpired that certain distinguished men in civil practice in England had offered their services to the crown for purposes of the war, and that these offers had been willingly accepted in order that the sick and wounded should have the best advantages and the most modern and skilled advice at the base hospitals.

Our Canadian confrères were eager to be allowed to go and do likewise, and it is here, gentlemen, that a page of humiliation has to be written. "You are good enough to practise on Canadians, but having no registration in Great Britain you could not legally practise in South Africa." Our loyalty and devotion to the Empire are smothered in the mazes of legal technicality, and when the question was asked in the British House of Commons as to what positions the few Canadian surgeons who were permitted to accompany their own men did occupy, the far-reaching and honest reply was given by Mr. Broderick, I think, "that he really did not know, and that the matter was too complicated to admit of discussion."

Our antipodean relations were not so treated. Up to recently they were, as you know, self-governing colonies, each being able to treat direct with the General Medical Council, and to their credit and common-sense be it said that in the framing of their new Australian Commonwealth they have taken a lesson from the unhappy position of their Canadian brothers, and have seen to it that in matters pertaining to medical education and registration the central government has the control.

Gentlemen, it is my belief that we must take a step forward, and do something to erect a bridge over the provincial boundary lines—I use this phrase advisedly, as it explains what I mean as against breaking down the barriers. This latter is what cannot be done, but the bridge can be erected by consent, and this without doing violence to the rights of any within their own domain.

Eleven years ago, in the preface to a little book I compiled, I wrote the following:

"The 'B.N.A.' Act having consigned all matters affecting education to the various provinces of Canada, as distinguished from the Federal Parliament, these separate legislatures have, from time to time, passed certain Acts governing the profession of medicine and surgery, and it has often occurred to me that it would be a useful and interesting work to bring these various measures together into one volume for the sake of convenience as well as of comparison, anticipating, perhaps, the time when legislation governing our profession shall emanate from the central authority, and thus form a one-portal system of entrance. In saying this I believe I am only voicing the sentiments of a large majority of the profession in Canada who consider the method now in vogue to be cumbersome, expensive and unnecessary."

The majority I there referred to is now a vast wave, I verily believe,