

is fixed over a window pane by means of a central pivot. In it some six or eight triangular holes are cut something like the spaces between the spokes of a wheel, and similar holes are cut in the window pane itself. Each of these holes may have an area of 2 square in., and the whole offer a total area of opening of 16 square in. The whole apparatus, which, be it borne in mind, is not inexpensive, answers the same purpose that the window, which is 36 in. wide, would if opened *less than half an inch!* When contemplating fittings such as these, we might be driven to the conclusion that fresh air costs a golden guinea a pint instead of being God's free gift to His creatures.

An even more outrageous fraud upon the unthinking public is the electric table or desk fan. It is often to be seen in saloon bars and also in some offices. "It is so handy, you know. You have only to turn on a switch and you have a refreshing current at once!" In shops where it is on sale it is frequently fitted with coloured streamers of narrow ribbon to show its mighty effectiveness. But all it does is to toss the existant air around, much as a child throws the hay about in a field. Not a single fresh blade can it make, not a mouthful of fresh air can this American deceiver introduce.

Pages could be filled with descriptions of these worthless inventions, which are only made to sell and deceive the unwary, but we will let these examples suffice. If I have convinced the reader that, excepting when he is in the open air, which is probably not four hours out of the twenty-four, he is being deprived of his greatest birthright; that during nine-tenths of his existence he is being half poisoned with foul air, the purpose of this article is achieved, and I can safely leave it to his common sense to see that he is no longer robbed of his inheritance.

(To be continued.)

### The Central Midwives' Board.

An adjourned meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W., on Thursday, March 2nd. There were present Dr. Champneys (in the chair), Miss Paget, Mrs. Latter, Dr. Ward Cousins, and Mr. Parker Young.

The following Medical Practitioners were approved as Teachers of Midwifery:—

William L. Christie, Esq., M.D., W. G. Lloyd, Esq., M.B., E. J. Norris, Esq., M.R.C.S., Arthur Cyril Ransome, Esq., M.B., W. A. Bowning, Esq., F.R.C.S., C. J. J. Hood, Esq., M.R.C.S., R. Sander-son, Esq., M.B., and T. H. Ionides, Esq., F.R.C.S.

The following certified midwives were approved under Rule C. I. (2):—

Miss Kate E. Shaw, Miss Bessie Beeson, Miss Elizabeth Ann Jenkins, Miss Ethel Mary Christie, Miss B. F. Hancock, Miss L. Keen, and Miss J. E. Ross.

The Cottage Nurses' Home, Kingswood Hill, Bristol, was approved as a training-school.

### Progress of State Registration.

The Bill to regulate the qualifications of Trained Nurses, and to provide for their Registration, introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Munro Ferguson, is down for its second reading on March 17th. It is unlikely, however, that this will be reached, but this need not concern its supporters, for, until the Select Committee on Nursing has presented its Report to the House of Commons, it is inadvisable to press forward the Bill. The evidence received by this Committee, and presented to the House with its own summary, must form a valuable survey of the whole question, which will be of great assistance to members in acquainting themselves to the subject. Meanwhile, every nurse who has the interests of her profession at heart should avail herself of every opportunity for directing the attention of Members of Parliament to this important question, and of placing before them the urgent reasons for the organisation of nursing as a profession.

There was a full room at the New Victorian Club, Sackville Street, W., on Tuesday last, when, on the invitation of Miss Smart, her friends assembled to listen to an address from Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on "The State Registration of Trained Nurses." The chair was taken by Mrs. Ronald Hepburn, who put the case for Registration from the public point of view forcibly and well. It was, she said, exceedingly difficult for the lay mind to grasp the reasons for the opposition to the principle of Registration. The boggy of character was raised as it always was where women were concerned, but the arguments advanced by the opponents of Registration seemed to her feeble and easily answered. The white heat of passion which the question aroused in nursing circles was extraordinary. Miss Stewart described the movement for the State Registration of Nurses, and clearly put forward the reasons for the enforcement of this system. She evidently had the sympathy of her audience, who, when discussion was invited, asked many questions proving their interest in the matter.

We are glad to note that Miss Peter, General Superintendent of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, in writing to the *Hospital* newspaper to correct the misstatements made concerning her in its previous issue, added, "I am glad to have this opportunity of stating that I am in favour of State Registration." In an interview with a representative of the same journal, Miss Heather-Bigg, Matron of Charing Cross Hospital, also expressed her belief in the principle of State Registration, and said that scandals which exist at the present time could not exist under a system of State Registration.

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