

work, and the enormous difficulty of making it correct. It is a great mistake, therefore, to tack on the title of "Register" to this unprofessional publication. If an entry in a social publication is not quite correct, no very great damage is done, but a mistake in a professional register, and they are bound to be numerous in a list compiled and issued by lay people, might give great cause for professional damage.

We will take one entry alone from the proofs sent to us. A lady stated to be born in "1868" is entered as "certificated and C.M.B. 1884," that is, she is "certificated" at the age of *sixteen*, eighteen years before the Central Midwives' Board was constituted under the Midwives' Act of 1902. A little lower in the paragraph she is entered as "Sister, Miss McCaul's Nursing Home, for Sir F. Treves, Welbeck Street, 1875-6." The lady, therefore, held this responsible post at the age of *eleven*—at a time when "Freddie" Treves was a youthful resident at the London Hospital, and some twenty years before Miss McCaul helped to start the Nursing Home alluded to. Furthermore, the name of Dr. Milton is spelled "Nilton."

No doubt the firm of Andrew Melrose, the well-known publishers, hope to meet a need by the issue of a Nurses' Year Book, but to assume the title of Register, and dabble in the professional training and status of thousands of nurses is as unwise as it is impracticable. Professional Registers can only be usefully compiled under the supervision of a legally constituted professional authority, and should not be attempted on any other basis. The expense also of revising and keeping up to date such a work is enormous.

In the table of contents we find notified "The Registration Society." Presumably, this alludes to "The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses." If so, the information must be quite unofficial, as none has been given or corrected from the office by any reliable officer. We sincerely hope the title "Register" will be dropped.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., the Countess Beauchamp opened at the Worcester Infirmary what was described as the "nurses' and patients' sale of work." It was an effort organised by the sisters and nurses under the direction of the Matron (Miss Herbert) to provide a balcony for the Bonaker Ward. Miss Herbert, in explaining the object of the sale, said they needed a balcony on which to put the children in their cots. Sunshine was a valu-

able aid in restoring them to health, and at present they could get very little of it in the ward. The nurses felt that to go on for months without having some provision of that character would be a bad state of affairs, and therefore they had co-operated with friends outside in that effort. Lady Beauchamp said she was glad to join in the undertaking, which must appeal to all their hearts.

In moving a vote of thanks to Lady Beauchamp, Mr. S. T. Harris and the Rev. G. F. Williams spoke in warm praise of the generous help of Miss Herbert and her staff, the latter remarking that as chaplain he had the opportunity of seeing a good deal of the work in the Bonaker Ward, and he was quite sure that there was a great deal of sunshine in the ward, but it was not of that kind which Miss Herbert now required. The organisers of the sale made the best of the little accommodation available. They had a stall in the middle of the committee room, and other small stalls in some of the corners. Every available crevice was artfully utilised. Shelves which had borne ponderous medical treatises now bore tempting cakes and delicacies which were offered for sale. We are glad to know the sale was a decided success.

Miss M. D. Milton, a probationer at the Hull Sanatorium, has shown courage and a sense of duty in writing to the local press concerning the following paragraph in the report of the Sanitary Committee, to which we alluded last week:—

"That as to the allegation that an effort was made to induce the witnesses not to give evidence or to keep things back, the evidence was that a certain sister had spoken to one nurse about the inquiry because she thought she was a nurse who would be inclined to exaggerate her grievances. She told her simply that it was not a time for one's own personal grievances, but a question of the hospital in general, because probationers made grievances out of very small matters.

Miss Milton writes:—

"I am the probationer referred to, and I wish to publicly repudiate the statement. What actually occurred was that one of the sisters had a conversation with me on generalities, and got to know my opinion about the institution, which was not a favourable one.

"My own view is that the sister was afraid that I should speak out at the inquiry about the training probationers were getting at the institution, which in my own case has been practically nil.

"As far as absolutely 'personal grievances' are concerned I should like to say I had none, and the stand I took, and am taking, is purely on the question of administration of the institution as a training school for nurses."

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