

have given to institutions be forgotten or ignored." Foremost amongst those who died in the service Miss Dock mentions Louise Darche, who lost reason and life through the terrible struggle with the "spoils" system, and other Bellevue nurses, all except one being Canadians.

It is interesting to learn that the first professional journal of nursing made its appearance in 1886. "It was a monthly called *The Nightingale*, and was promoted and edited entirely by Sarah Post, M.D., a Bellevue nurse who had taken a medical degree. Not without opposition was it founded. Criticisms were published, pointing out that a magazine for nurses was 'uncalled-for, improper, and capable of doing harm.' Nevertheless, during the few years of its existence, it maintained an excellent standard of news and ethics, and remains an interesting source of reference."

Miss Dock refers to the question of the training school run for gain, a more acute question in America than in this country, and reports the remark of a member of a State examining board that "the multiplicity of small hospitals owned by medical men, where training schools are maintained for strictly commercial purposes, is the greatest problem that confronts us." The situation, she says, "gives room for wonder whether it is not time for the medical profession to add a new article to its code of ethics, to the effect, namely, that private speculation in nursing education more or less bogus should be considered as no more honourable than the same traffic in medical education."

STATE REGISTRATION.

The pages in which are related the history of the Registration movement in the United States should be closely studied, for organization on these lines has advanced further there than elsewhere, and such study will be well repaid.

We learn that "the first definite steps looking towards State Registration were taken almost simultaneously, yet quite independently, by Miss Sophia F. Palmer in Rochester and Miss Sylveen Nye in Buffalo."

The splendid work of the nurses through their State Organizations is put on record, and shows what determination and professional spirit can accomplish. It shows also that the opposition in every case comes from those interested in maintaining inadequate standards. The first Bills were passed in 1903, that for North Carolina being the first. When the New Jersey Bill was passed, over which there had been a keen struggle, there was a rumour that the Governor was being pressed to veto it. "A nurse who by her services to a patient had

gained the gratitude of a prominent man, hastened to him with the bad news "Oh, Judge—the governor is going to veto our Bill." "H'm! Going to veto it, is he? He'll sign it if I have to stand over him with a gun." The Bill was signed.

In Virginia, violent opposition was subdued by tactful handling and good lobbying, and by the opportune appearance of forty odd nurses upon the floor, when a chivalrous member declared, "I have met the enemy, and I am theirs."

In Maryland, where an excellent Bill was passed, physicians of the highest standing endorsed the nurses' demands, and a striking remark at one of the meetings by Dr. William Welch deserves quotation.

"You have to consider exactly how to proceed to secure the State Examining Board. I noticed that in several of the States the law was almost imperilled by efforts to secure the presence of physicians upon these examining boards. Now I am quite sure that it is not the function of the physician to examine the nurses. The nurse should not go forth without having come under the guidance of the physician, but your profession is a skilled profession which requires special knowledge possessed by the trained nurse and not by the physician. Akin as the professions of medicine and nursing are, they are still distinct professions, and there is no necessity, in my opinion, and there are certain disadvantages, in the requirement that physicians should be members of the nurses' examining board." We wonder how many medical men in this country would be prepared to go as far. Yet if a medical man of standing were to submit himself to examination by a trained nurse in the details of practical nursing, in which he is prepared to act as examiner, he would, we believe, in most instances not secure a pass.

In Colorado the only opposition to the Bill came from "the man who had a training school in Pueblo, who knew how to train nurses in six weeks."

In Georgia we read that the nurses met with a sad lack of chivalry from medical men, none of whom helped them, and the medical profession was circularised against the Bill by the State Medical Society, the letter urging:—

"It will work a great deal of inconvenience to the medical profession, and to the general public, by cutting off the supply of available nurses; by putting them in a position where they can be very independent and refuse work when they wish too, and by increasing prices.

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