

Morris, as if the statement had been untrue—perhaps more so! Anyway, the former quoted in support of his reactionary policy the Matrons of some ten Metropolitan hospitals (whose Committees oppose), amongst them that of Miss Macintosh, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, ignoring, of course, the opinion of some 750 certificated members of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, who, he is well aware, are in favour of State Registration. Let us hope they may make a point of voicing their own convictions at an early date.

As for Mr. E. W. Morris, he has been capering through the press *s'excusing* and *s'accusing* in reference to the nursing question with great agility. Why? What has he got to do with it? Mr. Morris would be wise *revenir à son mouton*, and concentrate on his Balance Sheet. In the last issue of the London Hospital report, issued in 1913, we are still unable to find any statement of accounts for the Private Nursing Business carried on as "an integral part of the Hospital Nursing Department." The sole note of its financial assets is comprised in an item credited as income to the amount of £5,707 1s. 1d. What the Governors and public, to say nothing of the nurses, have a right to know is; what the 272 private nurses earned in fees, and how the huge sum of something between £20,000 and £25,000 was expended before the £5,701 1s. 1d. (especially that penny) set down as profit was arrived at. We consider Mr. Morris would be better employed in providing a clear statement of accounts on these points, and acknowledging with gratitude the enormous financial debt the London Hospital owes to its nurses, rather than attempting to prove how magnanimously the keen financiers who govern it treat defenceless women workers. The day for bluff is past and gone so far as we women of the world are concerned.

One of the most interesting coincidences in connection with the voting on the Nurses' Registration Bill was that Mr. G. W. Currie, the new Unionist member for Leith Burghs, represented for 26 years by Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson, recorded his first vote in the House in support of the Bill so long in charge of his predecessor, who for the ten years he was good enough to introduce it, never had an opportunity of voting for it.

#### AN EGREGIOUS MISTAKE OR MISSTATEMENT.

When statements are publicly made which purposely mislead, the truth should be told, and in the Registration controversy that is the rôle of the *B.J.N.* For instance, it is reported in

the pseudo nursing paper, on the staff of which she is a reporter, that Miss A. E. Windsor, in speaking at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, on March 4th, advanced in support of her statement that little or no union existed between nursing bodies, "the lack of union to-day as evidenced by the three Bills for State Registration, and the four religious organizations who seemed unable to co-operate with each other."

Such consummate ignorance on nursing affairs could hardly have been more aptly demonstrated, and Miss Windsor must either be exceedingly ill-informed on the question of nursing organization, concerning which she addresses members of the nursing profession, or animated by animus on the subject of registration, of which she has on a previous occasion given evidence. Surely the veriest tyro on nursing affairs is acquainted with the fact that there is only *one* Registration Bill now before Parliament, not *three*, and that the unanimity of the registrationists affiliated together in 1910, in the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, which is responsible for the Bill, is complete. So that the Manchester nursing world may be accurately and truthfully informed, we may repeat that Lord Ampthill is Chairman of the Central Committee, and that the following Associations compose it:—The British Medical Association, the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, the Royal British Nurses' Association, the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, the Fever Nurses' Association, the Association for Promoting the Registration of Nurses in Scotland, the Scottish Nurses' Association, the Irish Nurses' Association.

Also we may remind the Matrons and nurses of Manchester that this Bill was introduced into the House of Commons on March 3rd by Dr. Chapple, and secured the almost unprecedented majority of 228 votes on its first reading.

A letter from Mrs. Bedford Fenwick appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* on Monday, 16th inst., giving an emphatic denial to the statement made by Miss Windsor, that there was "lack of union" amongst those supporting State Registration, and giving a brief survey of the progress of the movement up to the first reading of the Bill in the House of Commons on the 3rd inst., when its majority was 228! Mrs. Fenwick wrote that as an old pupil of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, she was anxious the nursing profession in that city should not be misled on this vitally important question of Registration of Nurses.

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