

that it should be referred to the County Councils; also that copies of the correspondence which had passed should be sent to Mr. Heywood Johnstone, and his good offices in bringing the question before these bodies secured.

A resolution to the effect was proposed by Dr. Cullingworth, seconded by Dr. Ward Cousins, and carried unanimously.

A letter was then read from the Town Clerk of Brighton, enclosing a report by the Medical Officer of Health on the working of the Midwives' Act, giving some details as to the procedure of a certain midwife, and asking if the Board made any local inquiries about applicants before registering them. The Secretary, Mr. G. W. Duncan, said that the Medical Officer of Health at Brighton and the local supervising authorities appeared not to understand their own position. It was certainly their duty to acquaint the Board with irregularities such as those complained of. It was agreed to direct the attention of these authorities to certain sections of the Act which indicated the course they should follow. Dr. Cullingworth was of opinion that the Board had no right to make the inquiries suggested by the Town Clerk of Brighton, and it was agreed in connection with the case above mentioned to call upon the local authorities to furnish an official report in order that the Board might be in a position to deal with the matter effectively.

Letters were also read from institutions which had been refused recognition as training-schools by the Board, and replies decided on.

Dr. Ward Cousins here asked leave to bring forward a resolution placed on the Agenda in his name at a later stage of the proceedings, as he was obliged to leave before the conclusion of the meeting. The resolution was: "That registered members of the medical profession only shall be eligible for appointment as inspectors under the Central Midwives' Board."

Miss Paget stated that in connection with the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute inspection by trained women had been eminently satisfactory. Friction and complaints were unknown.

Mr. Parker Young did not think it necessary for inspectors to be qualified medical practitioners.

Dr. Champneys said he was opposed to tying the hands of the Board, and should vote against doing so. He was of opinion that no medical man would be half as sharp as a trained midwife, who would see much more in relation to the details of nursing than a medical practitioner.

Eventually Dr. Ward Cousins withdrew his motion.

A letter to the Chairman from the Secretary of the London Obstetrical Society, enclosing correspondence as to irregularity of signing certificates of training presented by candidates for the examination of the London Obstetrical Society, was considered. It was thought that, during the period sanctioned by the Act, the Board could only accept the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society as provided, and it was agreed simply to acknowledge the correspondence.

Five hundred and thirty-nine applications for registration were then considered, bringing up the total number of midwives registered to 6,198.

Two applications for recognition as training-schools were considered, but were not accepted.

A resolution, moved by Dr. Champneys, that the Privy Council be asked to sanction an alteration in Rule C I. (2), was carried unanimously.

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* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



The King has sanctioned the wearing when in uniform of the bronze badge and ribbon of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service by non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

On Friday, 22nd inst., the Queen presented certificates at Buckingham Palace to 900 nurses of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses, and about 400 more who should have received their certificates at previous presentations, but who were unable to attend, marched past. The Royal party took their seats under the canopy about three o'clock, and, shortly afterwards, the King's Indian orderly officers, under Captain McBarnett, added their picturesque figures to the background of the scene. The Queen took her stand in front of the awning just out of the sunlight. "Royal Alexandra nurses, salute," cried a sergeant of the R.M.A. in stentorian tones, and the nurses raised their right arms in a body. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which lasted over an hour, the nurses roamed about the grounds and enjoyed the tea thoughtfully provided for them.

Before the Royal party came on to the lawns a rehearsal of the proceedings took place. Each company of nurses was allotted to a non-commissioned officer, and some amusement was caused when one of them in his best parade voice said, "A Company, stand up"; "Link arms, please." He then led them past Sir Henry Burdett to rehearse what they would have to do when the Queen appeared. We should imagine Her Majesty's understudy found some difficulty in personating her gracious and charming personality as if to the manner born.

The Prince of Wales, as Grand Prior of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, last week presented, at Marlborough House, medals and certificates of honour awarded by the Chapter-General for acts of gallantry in saving life on land. Subsequently His Royal Highness presented the service medals awarded for conspicuous services to the Order and its departments, amongst the recipients being Miss Rose Preston, Barrowfield Nursing Division, St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

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