

appointed a Sub-Committee for the purpose of considering the method of revision of the lists of approved Training Schools, Teachers and Midwives, and reporting thereon.

It was recommended that Edith Eliza Britton, No. 3,892, and Margaret Anne Jones, No. 21,703, be approved for the purpose of signing forms III and IV.

The Standing Committee of January 24th reported to the Committee that a letter from Dr. Vacher, County Medical Officer for Cheshire, enclosing a circular, and a copy of an advertisement presumed to be issued by a certified midwife, had been considered and that the Board recommend that the matter be referred to the Penal Cases Committee.

A scheme submitted by Dr. Sidney Barwise, County Medical Officer for Derbyshire, for the establishment of a training centre for midwives at Chesterfield, was recommended for approval.

The Committee also recommended that the medical practitioner who certified that a certain midwife had been in *bonâ fide* practice since January, 1901, by which means she obtained the certificate of the Board under Section 2 of the Midwives' Act be asked for an explanation of the circumstances under which he signed the certificate.

The following applicants were recommended for approval as teachers:—Dr. Osmund H. Chapman, Dr. Frederick Knight, and Dr. Charles W. Stewart, and the following midwives for the purpose of signing forms III and IV. Constance Sophia Pritchard and Catharina Smith.

The Committee recommended that a candidate, whose certificates of training were signed by Professor Leopold Meyer, of Copenhagen, be admitted to the February Examination.

The Report of the Standing Committee was adopted.

THE REFUSAL OF INSTITUTIONS AS TRAINING SCHOOLS ON ACCOUNT OF STRUCTURAL UNFITNESS.

The next item on the Agenda was a resolution standing in the name of Mr. Fordham, who had given notice that he would propose that the Resolution of the Board refusing the application of the White-chapel Infirmary on the ground of structural unfitness be rescinded, and that approval now be given. In the absence of Mr. Fordham its consideration was deferred. The question was, however, brought forward on a letter from Dr. Larder, Medical Superintendent, who showed that the pupils trained in the Infirmary had been most successful in gaining certificates as midwives.

The Chairman pointed out there was no strong argument for refusing an institution as a training school on account of structural deficiencies, as the Board had recognised some institutions which trained entirely in the homes of the poor. Their duty was to ascertain that midwives had been efficiently trained, but he considered they had no right to disapprove of an institution as a training school on account of its structural arrangements.

THE MIDWIVES' ASSOCIATION.

Through the courtesy of the officers of the Manchester Midwives' Association we learn that their desire is that their Society should become national

in its scope, and that they will welcome any registered midwife who desires to join their Association under the following Regulations. Membership of their Association is increasing rapidly.

REGULATIONS.

Terms of Membership.—All registered Midwives are eligible to become full members.

Full Members.—Entrance fee, 1s.; Weekly contribution, 4d. (to be paid weekly or monthly in advance at convenience of member).

Benefits include: Financial benefit for eight weeks in any one year—first four weeks, 7s. 6d. per week; second four weeks, 5s. per week, during cases of suspension when not caused by fault of the member.

Legal Advice.—Subject to the approval of the Association.

Members must pay contributions for twenty-six weeks before being entitled to benefits.

Trade Members.—Entrance fee, 1s.; weekly contribution, 2d. per week. Trade members are not qualified for financial benefits and have restricted voting power.

MIDWIVES' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. Louisa M. Lee, Secretary of the Midwives' Defence Association, initiated by the midwives of the Royal Maternity of London, writes that a meeting to discuss the organisation and defence of midwives is to be held. This is the right course to take. We hope that after open discussion a thoroughly representative and self-governing Defence Union will be started. A National Union with branches should be the aim of Registered Midwives.

EXAMINATIONS OF THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

The next Examination of the Central Midwives' Board will be held in London at the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C., and in the provinces at University College, Bristol; Victoria University, Manchester; and the Lying-in Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on February 12th. The Oral Examination will follow a few days later.

Correspondence.

A MIDWIVES' DEFENCE UNION.

To the Editor of "The Midwife."

DEAR MADAM,—I think the suggestion for a Midwives' Defence League an admirable one. We women are slow to learn the lesson of co-operation, a curious fact because on all sides we not only see it in force, but see its benefits when applied to men's affairs.

They know that if they are to be a power, if even they are to make themselves heard, they must combine; the solitary voice may proclaim admirable sentiments, but it is the voice of the many, and the many in combination, which commands attention. By all means let us have a Midwives' Defence League, and when we have got it, let us loyally stand by it and work for it.—Yours faithfully,

COMMON SENSE.

[We regret that further correspondence must be held over until next week.—ED.]

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