

The Midwife.

ROYAL MATERNITY CHARITY OF LONDON.

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Maternity Charity of London will be held at the Charity's House, 31, Finsbury Square, London, E.C., on Wednesday, February 10th, at 3.45 p.m. It will be preceded at 3.30 p.m. by a special general meeting of Governors of the Charity.

LECTURES ON INFANT CARE.

The first of an advanced course of Lectures on Infant Care, arranged by the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality, and the Welfare of Infancy, was delivered on Monday last by Mrs. Florence Willey, M.D., at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., on "The Development of the Child in Utero." Mrs. Willey dealt with her subject most lucidly, and illustrated it by means of models, lantern slides, and some beautiful museum specimens, showing the foetus in all stages of development.

The course, which is a most useful one is intended for voluntary health workers, mothers and nurses, and consists of fourteen lectures. Opportunities are also given for the attendance of every student at four Infant Consultations. The fee for the course is 5s. (single lectures 1s.), and 10s. 6d. for a fuller course of practical instruction. The lectures are delivered on Mondays at 5.30 p.m. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the National Association for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality, 4, Tavistock Square, W.C.

THE LEEDS MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The Lady Mayoress, Mrs. J. Bedford, presided last week at the Annual Meeting of the Leeds Maternity Hospital, held in the Town Hall, when Mrs. Robert Hudson, the Hon. Secretary, presented an annual report recording great progress in all directions. The report pointed out that the war had caused large numbers of soldiers' wives to need the assistance of the hospital. Its shelter had also been extended to many poor Belgian refugees. "The Board is proud and happy," added the report, "to have been able to ameliorate the sufferings of some of the women of our heroic Allies in their time of need."

The number of cases sent in by the medical practitioners had steadily increased, showing the confidence of the medical profession of Leeds and district in the work of the hospital. The great increase in the work had at times caused the hospital accommodation to be taxed to its utmost limits, and it was probable that in the near future the question of increased accommodation for both patients and staff would have to be faced.

THE WAR AND THE WORK OF MIDWIVES.

Owing to the operation of the National Insurance Act, and the difficulty of raising funds, the Penzance District Nursing Association is finding existence difficult, and at last week's Annual Meeting the future was seriously discussed.

Mrs. Robins Bolitho, who presided, remarked that every year it was rather more difficult to obtain sufficient subscriptions to keep a nurse. They would like to continue the Association, as the poor people appreciated the nurse, and very much regretted the idea of discontinuing her.

Drs. Miller, Edwards, and Lawry spoke strongly in favour of a nurse being retained.

Mrs. J. de C. Treffry (Hon. Secretary of Cornwall County Nursing Association) pointed out that, in consequence of the terrible loss of life as a result of the war, every life had increased in value. The work of the midwife had therefore swiftly assumed enormous importance, and the saving of every male child had actually become a question of national importance. It would be deplorable if a town like Penzance gave up one of its health missionaries—the Association's nurse. She suggested a house-to-house collection.

Miss Frost explained the Local Government Board's maternity centres scheme, being organised by the Women's Co-operative Guild, with the help of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and said a start had been made at Wadebridge.

On the proposal of Dr. C. Branwell, it was decided to continue the Queen's Nurse for another year if the money could be found.

THE NORTH WALES NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Council of the North Wales Nursing Association, at its quarterly meeting, had to consider the question of a serious deficit, making it necessary to appeal to the public for increased support. Of the fifteen Welsh-speaking pupils in training, eleven had already been claimed for districts, and the remaining four would not be sufficient to meet the demands likely to be made towards the autumn. Five hundred pounds additional income was needed, in order to train the seventeen pupils, for whom the county councils allow midwifery grants.

The Secretary, Miss Davies, of Treborth, Bangor, and the Acting-Superintendent, Miss Prytherch, 54, College Road, are open to receive applications for training from Welsh-speaking North Walians out of employment, or in distress, owing to the War, as Queen Mary's "Work for Women" Fund is willing to make a grant for this purpose. Dependents of those at the Front, being otherwise provided for, are ineligible.

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