

sent out from the office; and that a report of the notable function on the occasion of the acceptance of the portrait of Major Sir Richard Barnett appeared in full in the December issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF MIDWIVES.

A Meeting of the Sub-Committee to consider the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Training and Employment of Midwives was held at the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Tuesday, December 10th, at 4 p.m.

There were present: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (President) in the Chair; Miss S. A. Villiers, Vice-President; Miss I. Macdonald, Fellow; and Miss N. Farrant and Miss G. Le Geyt, Co-opted Fellows.

The President informed the Committee that they were met to consider the Recommendation referred from the Meeting on November 1st, "That the Council be invited to consider the Report of the Departmental Committee on the training and employment of Midwives, and take such action as it approves to oppose, and make public, the inimical results of the proposal to deprive the Midwives of a Governing Body by placing them under the dual control of the Ministry of Health and the Central Midwives Board."

The Council had thought it advisable to appoint a small Sub-Committee to consider this question, and Miss N. Farrant and Miss G. Le Geyt (Fellows of the College), with expert knowledge on this question, were invited to serve on the Committee.

A Joint Committee of Associations to promote the interests of Mothers and Midwives had been formed of the following Associations: The Association of Inspectors of Midwives, the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, the College of Nursing, the Incorporated Midwives Institute, the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and some Co-opted Members.

Miss Farrant stated that it was interesting to note that out of 56,670 Midwives on the Roll, 14,479 notified their intention to practice.

There were 2,811 entrants in 1927, and out of that number 1,730 were trained nurses.

This, she considered, was very satisfactory; in the future, she hoped to see the Profession of Midwifery limited to the Trained Nurse. In the meantime there was an improvement in the conditions of Midwifery—amongst other things, increased fees, grants for motor transport, and assistance if overworked.

The Joint Committee had formulated the following aims and objects:—

1. To support all schemes which, in the opinion of this Committee, genuinely promote the welfare of Mothers and Midwives.
2. To oppose any legislation involving transference of the control of the Profession of Midwifery from an independent body to a Government Department.
3. To formulate proposals for the re-organisation of the special body which should have control over Midwives and their training.
4. To endeavour to arouse public opinion in support of the above objects.

The Incorporated Midwives Institute were working in close connection with the Joint Committee, and a good deal of useful work had already been accomplished.

The President stated that the Royal British Nurses' Association and the British College of Nurses had not been invited to join this Committee, and it was advisable that the College and the Royal British Nurses' Association should express an opinion. Registered Nursing should be

the basis of the Midwife's training, and the powers of the Central Midwives' Board should not be curtailed.

The following Resolution, proposed by Miss Macdonald and seconded by Miss Farrant, was unanimously agreed, and it was decided that it should be sent to the Minister of Health, subject to the approval of the Council:—

"That this Sub-Committee recommends that a Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Health, incorporating the following principles:—

"(a) That there should be no dual control in the government of the Profession of Midwifery, and no transference of the powers of the Central Midwives' Board to the Ministry of Health.

"(b) That entrance to the Profession of Midwives be restricted to Registered Nurses."

Miss Farrant wished it placed on record that the Profession owes a great debt to the Midwives who are not trained nurses, as much spade work has fallen to their share.

The Meeting then terminated.

The Report was adopted and the Secretary was directed to send a copy of the Resolution recommended by the Sub-Committee to the Minister of Health and to other persons interested in the question.

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

A Meeting of the Education Standing Committee was held at the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Tuesday, December 17th, at 4 p.m.

Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., was in the Chair, and the following were present: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President; Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss D. K. Graham, Miss B. Kennedy, and Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C.

Arising out of the Minutes, it was reported that Professor Mottram had agreed to give three Lectures on the Ductless Glands on January 20th, 27th, and February 3rd, at 5.30 p.m.

Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones had kindly consented to give his Lecture on "Superstition" on February 13th, at 8 p.m. A Debate on "Should Nurses in Hospital live in or out?" had been arranged for Tuesday, February 4th, at 8 p.m.

Consideration of Letter Referred from the Council.

The letter referred from the Council from Miss Ethel Dalton, F.B.C.N., relative to a Grant for a Health Visitors' Course, was considered, and after discussion the following recommendation, proposed by the President and seconded by Miss Graham, was agreed:—

"That the Council take into consideration the advisability of including Grants for a Health Visitors' Course in the Educational Curriculum of the British College of Nurses."

The President reported that some of the recipients of Grants to attend Lectures on Tropical Diseases at the Tropical Diseases Hospital had not attended all the Lectures, and it was agreed to place on the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Education Committee: "To consider that the recipients of Grants should refund the money if they do not fulfil their contract, unless they can furnish any good reason for not doing so."

Regulations for the Loan of Books from the Library.

The following Regulations were considered and approved:

1. The Library shall be open for the exchange of books between the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays excepted).
2. Fellows and Members are entitled to take out two books at a time.

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