

A MEETING of the Executive Committee of the Matrons' Council took place on Thursday, at which an interesting discussion concerning the arrangements for the Session of 1895-96 took place.

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EIGHTY-NINE candidates passed the examination for midwives of the Obstetrical Society on April 10th, at which the following questions were set:

(1) Describe the mechanism of the birth of the child, the head presenting with the occiput behind and to the right.

(2) Give the management of the third stage of labour. Mention the various circumstances under which the birth of the placenta may be delayed.

(3) What precautions would you adopt in order to prevent septic poisoning in the midwifery cases you are attending?

(4) Write out instructions for the feeding, during the first month of its life, of a child that has to be brought up by hand.

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THE following ladies satisfied the examiners of the Society of Trained Masseuses at the April examination:—Miss Winifred Allott, Miss Gertrude Gainsford, Miss Ethel Hailey, Miss Marian Ludbrook, Miss Julia Neidlyn and Mrs. Addie Vane-Thomas. These ladies were awarded a certificate of proficiency at the Trained Nurses' Club, Buckingham Street, Strand. The next examination will be held in July, the fee for which is 10s. 6d., and to those who are pupils of the Council 5s. 6d.

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The rules which are as follows will, in time, we should hope, do much to improve the Masseuses and re-instate their useful calling in public estimation.

(1) No massage to be undertaken except under medical direction. No general massage for *men* to be undertaken. Occasional exceptions may be made at a doctor's special request for urgent or Nursing cases.

(2) No advertising permitted in any but strictly professional papers.

(3) No sale of drugs to patients allowed.

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PRESIDENT FAURE seems to take a special interest in Hospitals and in Hospital workers. He has just paid a visit to the Hospital at Perigueux with which he was much pleased. The Sister Superior, a venerable lady of eighty years, was presented to him, and he congratulated her on the efficiency of her Hospital and on her healthy appearance at so advanced an age. He bestowed on her the Cross of the Legion of Honour in recognition of her life-long work, and kissed her on the cheek. He afterwards led her to the entrance of the Hospital, where they stood amid the cheers of the crowd.

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AT St. George's-in-the-East, after many discussions and some misgivings on the part of the Guardians, the Board agreed to grant permission to the charge Nurses to have the night off previous to their "long days," subject to the approval of the matron and medical officer. The matron, however, is enjoined by the board to assure herself that the Nurses have suitable accommodation for the night.

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THE annual meeting of the Palestine and Lebanon Nurses' Mission was recently held in Exeter Hall Parlour. Some very interesting details were given of Mission work in the Lebanon, and stress was laid on the urgent need of more missionaries to evangelise the forty villages lying around. The mission was started some years since by Miss Smith, who still continues its superintendence. The mission is a medical one, and 1,595 persons were relieved last year in the new dispensary.

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DR. MAX NORDAU, in his remarkable and somewhat morbid book on "Degeneration," quotes the case of a woman who became a Nurse from a motive which is happily rare! He quotes her as a characteristic example of faculties which have become degenerate.

"In the autumn of 1884, there died in a Swiss prison Marie Jeanneret, a murderess. After having received a good education she devoted herself to the care of the sick, not for the love of doing good, but to satiate a mad passion. The sufferings, groans, and distorted features of the sick filled her with secret voluptuousness. She implored the doctors, on her knees and with tears, to allow her to assist in dangerous operations in order to be able to gratify her cravings. The death agony of a human being afforded her the height of enjoyment. Under the pretext of a disease of the eyes, she had consulted several oculists, and had obtained from them belladonna and other poisons. Her first victim, a woman, was her friend; others followed, the doctors to whom she had recommended herself as Nurse having no suspicions, the less so because she frequently changed her residence. An attempt failing in Vienna led to discovery; she had poisoned not less

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