

The Queen's Birthday Honours.

FOR MEDICAL MEN.

IN celebration of her birthday the Queen has conferred, amongst other honours, a Baronetcy upon Professor J. S. Burdon Sanderson, Regius Professor of Medicine at the University of Oxford, and a Knighthood upon Dr. William Mitchell Banks, an eminent medical man in Liverpool, who for some years past has been on the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons.

ROYAL RED CROSS.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the Decoration of the Royal Red Cross upon Miss Isabella Smith, Royal Naval Nursing Service, in recognition of her devotion and competency in connection with her nursing duties in naval hospitals at home and abroad, and during the Benin Expedition.

It is satisfactory to note that both in the Queen's Birthday, and the New Year's Honours list the names of recipients of the Royal Red Cross have appeared, thus establishing the principle that it is only just that women's work should receive recognition as well as that of men. When shall we see the names of other women than nurses in the Honours Lists? We hope that some means will be taken before long to recognize the excellent work done by women in many branches.

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

MISS ELEANOR CAROLINE VERNET has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, Bloomsbury. Miss Vernet was trained at the Middlesex Hospital, and has held the appointments of Staff Nurse, Night Superintendent, and Day Sister at the National Hospital, and Sister of Male Surgical Wards at the Middlesex Hospital.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

MISS MARGARET J. ROULSTON has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Gateshead. Miss Roulston received her training at the Canterbury Hospital, and the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, and has also held appointments at the Union Infirmaries of Hammersmith, Bow, and Greenwich. At present she is Superintendent Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Devonport.

In announcing the appointment of Miss L. Martin to the position of Matron of the Belper Joint Hospital, in a recent issue, we omitted to mention that she studied midwifery at the Victoria Home, Cheltenham, and that she holds the diploma of the London Obstetrical Society.

The Kaisr-el-Aini Hospital.

WE are informed that Miss Glover, the recently-appointed Matron of the Kaisr-el-Aini Hospital, Cairo, has resigned her position. Miss Bishop, the Senior Sister, is also leaving. Two of the Sisters who went out last November have also resigned, having become engaged to be married. There will, therefore, be several vacant posts for nurses in this important hospital. It is to be regretted that harmony in the management has not yet been accomplished.

The Midwives' Bill.

WE have now before us the full text of Sir Richard Thorne Thorne's speech upon the amendment proposed by him to the Report of the Midwives' Bill Committee, at the meeting of the General Medical Council, and adopted by that body. It appears that the Committee disapproved of the proposed constitution of the Central Midwives' Board, proposed in Clause 5 of the Bill. This provided that the Central Midwives' Board should consist of "four registered medical practitioners, one to be elected by the Royal College of Physicians of London, one by the Royal College of Surgeons of England, one by the Society of Apothecaries, and one by the Incorporated Midwives' Institute. The Committee were of opinion that the Board should be more representative in its character, and should include registered medical practitioners in local districts throughout England and Wales." Sir Richard Thorne Thorne was of opinion that such a selection was not as good as leaving the matter in the hands of those who were deemed capable of granting licences to medical practitioners in midwifery. The Committee was further of opinion that all members of the Central Midwives' Board should be registered medical practitioners, but here again Sir Richard Thorne Thorne differed from them. He thought the justification of the Bill was based on the fact that 90 per cent. of the cases of childbirth were the result of natural processes of health, and that the medical profession, whose right of intervention was limited to the occurrence of abnormality or disease, had no right to demand to constitute the whole Board.

We think it is most essential that on the Midwives' Board trained midwives should have influential, if not preponderating, representation. This is only just in the organization of any profession. It is, surely, a misnomer to term any Board a "Midwives' Board" which need not, necessarily, have a single midwife upon it.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)