

Annotations.

LORD ROSEBERY'S TECHNOLOGICAL SCHEME.

Mr. Haldane, K.C., M.P., at the prize distribution at the Borough Polytechnic last week, made an interesting announcement in relation to Lord Rosebery's scheme for a great technological institute. The reason why nothing had so far been disclosed was because it was inconvenient to present pictures of the end when those engaged in the matter had not got much further than the beginning, but he hoped eventually, with the combined efforts of the trustees of the Rosebery scheme, of the Government, of the great City Companies, and of the University of London, a scheme would be evolved worthy of the great Metropolis. A point of special interest was the announcement of the speaker that it was hoped the scheme would be of material assistance to the polytechnics, and that, more and more, the scholarship system would enable promising students, men and women who were working with success in the polytechnics, to come forward and take a part in the great specialised training of the higher kind which, it was hoped, before long would be given in London on a scale something approaching that in which it was found in Germany and the United States.

Women are so often left out in the cold in educational schemes that it is good news their claims are to be considered in the present instance. In the matter of endowment there are many arrears to be made up in relation to women's education. Even the most brilliant women are often handicapped by the desultory teaching which was meted out to them in their early years, and though their active brains and earnest wills have in later life remedied much of the evil, the lost ground has never been wholly recovered; they have felt more or less throughout life the early lack of solid grounding. We shall await with great interest the disclosure of their entire scheme by the Rosebery trustees. No greater benefit can be conferred on women than to afford them educational facilities.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

At a Conference convened last week by the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, and held at 23, Cromwell Road, South Kensington, Lord Monkswell, Chairman of the London County Council, asked the Conference for an expression of

opinion as to whether it considered the Midwives' Act should be administered by the London County Council or by the Borough Councils. In consequence of a number of petitions received by the London County Council in favour of administration by Borough Councils the General Purposes Committee passed a resolution that, subject to proper restrictions and conditions, the Act should be administered locally by Borough Councils. Since coming to that decision the Committee had heard so much in condemnation of administration by Borough Councils that it was now inclined to turn back on its resolution.

Mrs. Wallace Bruce, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Association, in reply, said that it would prefer that the Act should be administered by the London County Council, and a resolution to this effect was adopted. This decision we consider a wise one, as too many local interests would be involved to make the control of midwives by Borough Councils desirable. At the same time, to be effective supervisors of midwives, the disabilities of women as County and Borough Councillors should be removed, so that their invaluable aid may be secured.

Mrs. Wallace Bruce stated in the course of the proceedings that the object of the Association was to raise funds to enable it to continue and enlarge the work of its bureau at 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, as a centre of information, and to maintain the training-home which had been started by it at East Ham; and Miss Amy Hughes urged the necessity for the efficient training and greater supervision of midwives.

The whole question presents considerable difficulties, for it does not at present appear that midwives in any large numbers have presented themselves for registration.

A SCOTTISH EXAMINING BOARD FOR NURSES.

The physicians and assistant physicians of the Scottish maternity hospitals, at a meeting recently held in Edinburgh, at which Professor Simpson presided, formed a "Scottish Examining Board for Obstetric Nurses" with the object of examining and granting certificates to this class of nurses. To be eligible for the examination nurses must have had three years' general and three months' special training, or six months' training in a maternity hospital. The Secretary is Dr. Fordyce, 20, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

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