

nursing education can be brought about on some such plan, then, members of the German Nurses' Association, that for which you are striving will be near fruition. We shall then see a social uplift in your profession, and with this must come an improvement in material conditions. But the benefits will not be to you only. The public will reap benefits, for the sake of which alone the State would be justified in assuming such control as I have described.

Then, no matter from what source the patient desires to select a nurse—whether from a strictly religious order or from among the Sisters practising independently—he may in every case be certain that she possesses the knowledge and ability which enable him to trust himself in confidence to her care.

We Congratulate all Concerned.

After standing out for just over four years the Croydon Board of Guardians has at last capitulated on the question of the Matron's signature on the certificates of probationers completing their term of training. The Infirmary Committee, it may be remembered, recently received a petition from probationer nurses requesting to be allowed to have the name of the Matron (Miss A. W. Pagen) on their certificates. By a casting vote only, the Committee refused to accede to the application, but at the Board meeting there was an animated discussion, initiated by Dr. B. W. Addison, which resulted in the subject being referred back by 15 votes to 10. The Chairman of the Committee (Mr. W. H. J. Owen) declared "it was all a mere matter of sentiment," fomented by the nursing Press, in which connection another member had mentioned the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*. On Tuesday, however, the report of the Infirmary Committee showed that at last they had come to a just and reasonable view of the matter, inasmuch as they advised the Board to take steps to restore the Matron's signature to the training certificates of probationer nurses. This advice was accepted without a single word of discussion arising, and Dr. Addison formally gave notice that at the next meeting he would move the rescission of the resolution of September, 1900, around which so much controversy has raged. It may be added, as a matter of curiosity and information, that the objectionable decision now to be revoked was in the following curt and drastic wording: "That the Matron's signature to the training certificates of probationer nurses be dispensed with, and that the existing form of certificate be reprinted, omitting the place for the signature of the Matron thereon."

We congratulate the Guardians and the probationers alike on this decision, and, as at the Board meetings credit has been given to this *Journal* for its share in bringing about this necessary alteration, we also congratulate ourselves.

Central Midwives' Board.

An adjourned meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, W., on Thursday, December 1st. There were present: Dr. Champneys (in the chair), Miss Wilson, Miss Paget, Dr. Ward Cousins, Mr. Parker Young, and Dr. Cullingworth.

The special meeting of the Board summoned to hear and decide upon charges alleged against a certified midwife did not take place, as the midwife's solicitors wrote enclosing a certificate from a medical man that she was ill and unable to leave the house.

Mr. G. W. Duncan, Secretary, reported that depositions had been received concerning a case in Barrow-in-Furness, in which it was alleged that a certified midwife was drunk while conducting a delivery.

The Secretary also reported that in accordance with the instructions of the Board he had notified the Royal British Nurses' Association of the vacancy on the Board occasioned by the resignation of its representative, Miss Oldham, and he had been informed that the Association had nominated Mrs. Josephine Latter, late Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, as her successor.

Applications for approval as Institutions for the Training of Midwives under Section C of the rules were then considered, and the following accepted:—

The Coombe Lying-in Hospital, Dublin.

Guy's Trained Nurses' Institution.

The East-End Mothers' Home.

Two applications were postponed for further information, and three were refused.

Applications for recognition as teacher under Rule C. I. (3) were then considered from medical practitioners:—

This rule is as follows:—

No person shall be admitted to an examination unless she produces certificates that she has undergone the following course of training:—

She must have attended a sufficient course of instruction. . . . No period of less than three months shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose.

The above certificate must be in the form prescribed by the Central Midwives' Board, and must be filled up and signed by a registered medical practitioner recognised by the Board as a teacher.

The following applicants were approved:—

Mr. Edward Blythe Hurst Hughes, L.R.C.P., L.F.P.S., Swansea.

Mr. Chas. Wm. Brown, M.B., C.M., Manchester.

Mr. Robert Anderson Nesham, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Dr. Simpson Powell, Aldershot.

Dr. G. Basil Price, Leyton.

Dr. Francis B. Cassidi, Derby.

Mr. Walter G. Copestake, M.R.C.S., Derby.

Dr. Robert Laurie, Derby.

Five applications were postponed for future information, and one was refused.

Application for approval as certified midwife for the purpose of signing Forms III. and IV., under Rule C. I. (2), were then considered.

The following were approved:—

Mrs. Deborah Brady, Charlton.

Miss Sarah Beddow Perry, Eastbourne.

Miss Edith Mary Beesby, Aldershot.

Miss Agnes Holmes Brooks, Notting Hill.

Miss Alice Kate Franklin, Manchester.

Miss Elizabeth M. Wulff, London.

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