

the Privy Council with respect to Poor Law Institutions.

2. That the Resolutions referring to the number of cases qualifying Institutions or teachers for approval by the Board were framed merely for their own guidance, and were of a tentative nature only. The Board did not wish them to be stereotyped in any way, and do not consider that they are "Rules" within the meaning of the Act requiring formal approval by the Privy Council.

In this connection the Chairman pointed out that the Board has to feel its way, and that the resolutions should be regarded as tentative notes rather than as fixed rules. The Board was bound, if it wished to be consistent, to adopt some sort of policy. Thus it was of opinion that there should be a certain number of deliveries annually in institutions which it recognised as training schools, because without a certain number of cases the atmosphere was not charged with the obstetric impression so desirable where pupils were in training. Miss Paget pointed out that where an institution was not recognised there need be no waste of clinical material, as the available cases could be utilised for instruction under the supervision of a recognised teacher.

- (3) That the suggestion that a new rule should be made imposing upon midwives the duty of notifying to the local Supervising Authority every birth occurring in their practice, has already been considered by the Board, who thereupon resolved that in their opinion the matter was one for legislation, and not for a rule of the Board.

THE POINT AT ISSUE.

The point at issue between the Privy Council and the Midwives' Board is whether all institutions for the training of midwives shall conform to the regulations of the Board, or whether special exemptions shall be granted in the case of institutions under the authority of the Local Government Board. It is bad policy as well as a bad precedent to permit a Government Department to be exempt from the law of the land.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Other business having been disposed of the Government Maternity Hospital, Madras, was approved as a training school, and Mr. J. Crombie, L.R.C.P., and Captain A. E. Weld, R.A.M.C., were recognised as teachers.

In the case of one applicant for recognition as a teacher—not on his lack of qualifications, but on the ground that there was already a teacher in a larger centre which could be reached in twenty minutes by rail—Mr. Parker Young strongly objected. He asked, with force, was it fair or just to these women to make them travel sixteen and seventeen miles each way to every lecture they attended, when there was a competent man asking for recognition in their own locality. As to standards, these were ensured by the uniform examination of the Board. We entirely agree with Mr. Parker Young.

Miss E. M. Heppelwhite was approved for the purpose of signing forms III. and IV.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for November 1st, and the meeting then terminated.

Our Foreign Letter.

NURSES ON HOLIDAY.

A TRIP TO GRAND CANARY AND TENERIFFE.



We arrived at Santa Cruz, Teneriffe, one beautiful morning at 6 a.m., having come across from Las Palmas during the night in a

Spanish mail boat. Arriving on deck, such a scene met my gaze as I shall not soon forget. Santa Cruz has a beautiful harbour surrounded by lofty mountains, whose jagged peaks are silhouetted against the blue of the sky. Each peak and crag was touched with the rose pink light of the rising sun, the sky was serenely blue, as was the sea, with its girdle of foam, beating everlastingly against the lava coast. Ships from all parts of the world were there, with the flags of their respective nations fluttering gaily in the breeze. The peace and calm of early morning was over all. Then the sun rose in his golden glory, flashing on the window panes of the sleeping town, and adding the lustre as of diamonds to the scene.

We had a long and trying day before us. Breakfast first at the hotel, then a long drive by train to Tacaronte, ascending all the time, lunch and a short rest at the hotel there, and then another tremendous drive by mule carriage right across the Island, through wild and rugged scenery and endless banana plantations, to Orotava, where we arrived, dusty and tired and hot, in time to change for dinner.

At this time, when one of our Princesses has but lately been joined in the bonds of holy matrimony to the King of Spain, it may interest your readers to hear of the King's visit to the Canary Islands.

I happened to be there at the time, and was staying at the Grand Hotel, Orotava, when he lunched there. The young King made himself most popular during his short stay in the Islands. He was indefatigable in visiting them each and all, and if deterred one day by storm, and the utter impossibility of landing, went the next. On one occasion, it was said, he waded ashore, but for this I cannot vouch.

He was so full of youthful life and energy, that at times, I fear, he was somewhat of a trial to the aged generals in attendance on his person. On one occasion he is said to have rushed up a hill to obtain a better view, the said generals puffing and panting after him as best they could. Another time, he broke away from his escort, and went for a gallop, the escort, of course, having to put spur to horse to overtake him. He went up to Tacaronte in the ordinary tram on his way to Orotava, and altogether behaved like a boy out for a holiday.

At Las Palmas, he enjoyed himself greatly at the Battle of Flowers, during the Carnival time, and amused himself by emptying baskets full of flowers

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)