

had pointed out to the representatives of the companies referred to that the noise and the vibration which are unavoidable in the case of motor traffic, were likely to retard the recovery of the inmates of the hospital, and the sympathetic attitude of the firms approached led them to give the assurance that the route would no longer be used.

A matinee concert in aid of the hospital, organised by a Covent Garden Committee of the principal merchants, is to be given at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden on December 4th.

His Majesty the King has sent his annual subscription of £100 to the funds of the Middlesex Hospital.

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs, has consented to visit the British Home for Incurables, Streatham, on Wednesday, November 28th, to open the Annual Sale of Work for the benefit of the patients.

At the Annual General Court at Guy's Hospital the treasurer (Mr. H. Cosmo Bonsor) reported that an enlarged out-patient department, a children's ward, and the rebuilding of Clinical House were improvements which it was highly desirable to carry out. It was decided to put in hand the first, which was a pressing need, with the least possible delay.

An influential deputation of medical men waited on the President of the Board of Education on Monday, in furtherance of the teaching of hygiene and temperance in elementary schools. Mr. Birrell, replying, agreed that it was desirable that these subjects should be embodied in the curriculum without constituting a new subject. He referred to the existing fulness of the curriculum, and advised the education of public opinion on the subject.

A conference of medical men convened by the Medical Society of London have passed resolutions proclaiming the ill-consequences to the health and vitality of the people in London from the growing evil of street noises, and asking for legislation to suppress these noises and noisy traffic in purely residential streets, at least between midnight and six in the morning. Dr. Hyslop, of Bethlem, in drawing attention to the injury caused by street noises, said that motor-omnibuses ought to run underground in main drains like other nuisances.

By the kindness of Miss G. M. Nevins, hon. secretary of the American Society for Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses we have received the twelfth annual report of this Society, always a most interesting and inspiring record.

The lectures to midwives organised under the authority of the London County Council are now being given weekly at nine centres. Fee for the course of 20 lectures 1s. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, Dacre House, Dean Farrar Street, Westminster, S.W.

## The Central Midwives' Board.

A Special Meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at the Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, on Thursday, November 8th, for the purpose of hearing the charges against eleven midwives. There were present Dr. Champneys in the Chair, Miss Paget, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Latter, Dr. Dakin, and Mr. Parker Young. The only midwife who appeared personally was Mary Ann Green. The solicitor to the Board produced the evidence substantiating the charges made.

### CHARGES.

I.—Cecily Dennett, No. 7065.—Charged with negligence in not advising that a medical practitioner be sent for, under circumstances enjoined by the rules on four occasions, of neglecting to visit a patient, of failing on four occasions to notify to the Local Supervising Authority within twelve hours that a medical practitioner had been sent for.

*Decision.*—To be severely reprimanded.

II.—Mary Ann Green, 16,964. Charged with neglecting to notify the Local Supervising Authority as soon as possible after delivering a patient of a still-born child, sending a false notification eventually, and keeping the corpse in a cupboard in her house from March 19th until April 9th.

*Decision.*—To be severely reprimanded.

III.—Elizabeth Prior, 3,327. Charged with failing to take appliances and antiseptics to a confinement, failing to advise that a medical practitioner should be sent for under conditions required by the rules.

*Decision.*—Name removed from the Roll at her own request.

IV.—Fanny Simmonds, 10,736. Charged with failing to send for a registered practitioner in two cases under circumstances enjoined by the Rules, with failing to notify the Local Supervising Authority on a medical practitioner having been sent for, with failing to enter the case in her register of cases.

The charges were admitted.

*Decision.*—Name to be removed from the Roll.

V.—Betsy Simpkin, 608, aged 78. Charged with being convicted at the General Quarter Sessions at Sheffield in June, 1906, with unlawfully and wilfully making a false certificate, to wit, a certificate that a child which had been born alive was still born, and of being sentenced to three months' imprisonment. From the reports produced it appeared that hard labour was also added to the sentence. Dr. Godfrey Carter, who examined the infant's body, stated at the trial that the child did not die a natural death, that the lungs were inflated, the cord open, and the heart bloodless.

*Decision.*—Name to be removed from the Roll. The Chairman in announcing this decision said there were facts to which the attention of the public through the press should be directed. The sentence passed upon the midwife, especially taking into account her age, appeared a severe one, but from the proceedings in the Court it was plain that this was not an isolated case, then there was the condition of the child, and further, the amount of still births in practice of this midwife for years had been extraordinarily large. No doubt all these circumstances were taken into consideration.

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