

county of Hertfordshire, then proposed that the name of the Society should be the Midwives' Defence Association. This was seconded by Miss Davies, Matron of St. Mary's Hospital, and carried.

In regard to the recommendation that Hon. Members should have the privilege of Membership as regards voting, Miss Breay said she had dissented from this in the Executive Committee.

With respect to the Annual Subscription, it was agreed that as the Association would probably not be in full working order until 1908, the subscriptions paid by members in 1907 should cover 1908 also.

In connection with the appointment of Hon. Officers, Miss Breay pointed out that as the rules stood at present, the auditor, as an Hon. Officer, would have a seat on the Council, and a voice in the Government of the Association.

The Chairman explained that the reason why the Auditor was included in the Hon. Officers was because it was hoped the Association might obtain the help of a gentleman who would give his services. Miss Rosalind Paget said that the Midwives' Institute had for many years been fortunate in securing the services of an hon. auditor; but he had no voice in the management of the Institute. It was then agreed to delete the Auditor in the capacity of Hon. Officer.

In regard to the election of the Council of which it was suggested that one-third should retire annually, but should be eligible for re-election, the Chairman explained that the opposite view had found favour with some members of the Executive, namely, that the retiring members should not be eligible for re-election for a year. It was agreed that the recommendation of the Executive should stand.

Dr. Fremantle criticised the draft rule that the Council should have power to fill casual vacancies amongst the officers, or in their own body, on the ground that the point of view of the Council and of the members as to the appointment would probably be quite different.

Miss Breay thought it unnecessary to assume that the Council and members would be at loggerheads. It was to be hoped that an elected Council would desire to give effect to the wishes of the members. The appointment might be made subject to confirmation by the Annual General Meeting. The Clause was altered in this sense, with the proviso that the Council should only appoint new members on its own body if the number fell below twelve.

The Draft Rules as amended were then approved, subject to such verbal alterations as the Council might consider desirable. The rules, as amended, were as follows:—

#### MIDWIVES' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

##### *Name.*

1.—That the name be "Midwives' Defence Association."

##### *Objects.*

2.—That the objects of the Association be:—  
To protect the character and interests of midwives practising in England and Wales, and to advise and defend members of the Association in

cases in which their professional interests or character are involved.

##### *Membership.*

3.—That only those whose names appear on the Midwives' Roll be eligible for membership, subject in each case to the approval of the Council, and that all applications for membership be made on the form provided for the purpose. The Council shall, however, have the power to elect Honorary Members who shall have the privileges of membership as regards voting.

4.—That any Member wishing to withdraw from the Association shall give two months' notice in writing, addressed to the Secretary, of her intention to do so.

##### *Subscriptions.*

5.—That the annual subscription be half-a-guinea.

6.—That subscriptions be due on the 1st January, and if not paid by the 31st January, a notice be sent by the Secretary. That no member whose subscription is in arrear be entitled to any of the privileges of membership, and if the default shall continue for three calendar months, the Council may, by notice, determine the membership of such member, but such determination shall be without prejudice to any claim the Association may have upon her.

##### *Meetings.*

7.—That the Annual General Meeting be held before the end of April in each year, and that 21 days' notice be given by post to each member.

8.—That the Council may call a special meeting of the members of the Association at any time.

9.—That the Council shall, upon the requisition in writing of not less than 12 members convene a special meeting on such day and at such hour as the Council may determine.

10.—That 12 members shall form a quorum at General Meetings of the Association.

11.—That at all meetings, in case the voting be equal, the Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote as a member.

12.—That no rule be made, altered, or rescinded except at the Annual General Meeting, or at a special meeting after due notice, and that any proposed new rule or alteration be set forth in the notice convening the meeting.

##### *Officers.*

13.—That the honorary officers be a President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, and that they be elected annually by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

That the Council have power to appoint an auditor and a solicitor, and to decide upon their remuneration, if any, subject to confirmation by the Annual Meeting.

##### *Council.*

14.—That the management of the Association be vested in the Council.

15.—That the Council consist of not less than 12 members, nor more than 24, and that they be elected by proxies issued to members and counted at the Annual Meeting. That one-third of the Council retire annually, but be eligible for re-election. That the quorum for meetings of the Council be four.

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