

Mrs. Latter, who entered the room at this moment, said that she deeply regretted the loss of Miss Wilson, and sympathised with the reasons which led to her retirement.

The Chairman, having explained the business before the Board for Mrs. Latter's benefit, Sir George Fordham's motion was then put to the meeting, when the voting was as follows:—

For the previous question: The Chairman, Sir George Fordham, Sir William Sinclair, and Dr. Stanley Atkinson (Representative of the Midwives' Institute).

Against: Mr. Parker Young, Mr. Ward Cousins, Miss Paget, and Mrs. Latter.

The voting thus being equal, the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of Sir George Fordham's resolution, and the previous question was therefore carried.

Had the representative of the Midwives' Institute been a midwife we do not think she would have found a difficulty in sympathising with the reason which led to Miss Wilson's resignation.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

Amongst the correspondence, the Standing Committee reported a letter from H.R.H. Princess Christian as to charges of drunkenness reported against two of the nurses in the Windsor Maternity Home. The Board adopted the recommendations of the Committee (a) that the letter be referred to a sub-committee to investigate the whole method by which the midwives of the Windsor Maternity Home are engaged; (b) that the sub-committee consist of the Chairman, Dr. Atkinson, Mrs. Latter, and Mr. Parker Young.

APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL FROM THE ROLL.

At their own request, the following certified midwives were removed from the Roll:—Rachel Bland, 4392; Mary Rose, 7067; Emily Stevens, 16468.

Approved Training School.—The Newcastle-on-Tyne Union Hospital was approved as a training school.

Approved Teachers.—The following were approved as teachers:—Mr. F. H. Allfrey, M.B., Capt. J. H. Robinson (R.A.M.C.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; Mrs. M. A. Dacomb Scharlieb, M.D.; Mr. H. M. Stumbles, M.B.

Midwives Approved to Sign Forms III. and IV.—Caroline Davies, 26699; M. E. M. Rossi, 21972; M. Van Emerik, 4816.

RESOLUTION.

Mr. Parker Young then moved:—"That the Lord President of the Council be respectfully requested to consider the advisability of adding to the Departmental Committee representatives of the interests of general practitioners and midwives, as the Board consider that such additions would greatly enhance the value of the report eventually come to by that Committee."

In moving the resolution, Mr. Parker Young pointed out that it was couched in most respectful terms, and merely asked the Lord President "to consider the advisability" of making the suggested additions to the Committee. There were some 40,000 medical practitioners in the country, the large majority of whom were in general practice.

They and the midwives were the persons most concerned in the findings of the Departmental Committee.

Dr. Stanley Atkinson said that every section of the community concerned was represented on the Central Midwives' Board, and there was no body so competent as the Board to form an opinion on the constitution of the Departmental Committee or so justified in expressing that opinion to the Privy Council. The recommendations contained in the resolution were right and reasonable, and he believed, if sent up from the Board, it would have weight.

PREVIOUS QUESTION.

Sir George Fordham did not consider it was the business of the Board to censure the Privy Council in its choice of representatives; moreover, if the Lord President refused to adopt the recommendations contained in the resolution the Chairman of the Board would be embarrassed, and it was a question whether he would not have to resign his seat on the Departmental Committee. He moved the previous question, which was seconded by Sir William Sinclair.

Mr. Ward Cousins was sorry Sir George Fordham was so nervous. It was the duty of the Board to endeavour to cement the relations between medical men and midwives. It was placing a terrible responsibility on the Chairman that he should have to represent the whole medical profession; moreover, consultants could not advise on matters affecting general practitioners. If the request contained in the resolution were successful he thought the result would be to cement the relations between midwives and the medical profession.

Miss Paget thanked Mr. Parker Young for being so wide-minded as to include midwives in his resolution. It was an act of justice to the 26,000 midwives on the Roll.

Sir William Sinclair considered that the Board has no *locus standi* in the matter. Its duty was to administer the Act. He was in sympathy with the representation of general practitioners on the Departmental Committee, but he did not see where a representative of midwives, working at her profession, was to come from. He considered the subject one which could be ventilated through the medical press, and protested against the Board taking action on matters which did not concern it.

Mr. Parker Young, in reply, said that the Act at present was unworkable. A midwife might have to send to eight or nine doctors before she could get one to come to her assistance. Sir William Sinclair was not a general practitioner. They knew where the shoe pinched, so did the midwives. He hoped the resolution would go up to the Lord President.

On being put to the vote the previous question was negatived, and Mr. Parker Young's resolution carried.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ife, who gave birth to triplets in Queen Charlotte's Hospital on the 17th January, has received the King's Bounty.—The King has also sent a gratuity to Mrs. Blackstone, of South Lambeth, who recently became the mother of four children at a birth.

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