

This rule is most important to those who failed from oversight or ignorance to claim admission to the Roll during the period of grace. As the present regulations are by the Rule only relaxed for a period of six months it is important that the attention of all whom it may concern should be directed to it without delay.

The next meeting of the Board was fixed for April 21st, and the meeting then terminated.

### The Training and Supply of Midwives.

The sixth annual meeting of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives was held on Friday, March 18th, at 36, Thurloe Square, by the kind permission of Mrs. Charles Ebdon. Mr. T. Raffles Hughes, K.C., was in the chair, and said that the annual report which was in the hands of those present showed the admirable work done by the association. The Chairman referred to the announcement in the report of the resignation of the Secretary, Miss Gill, who has done most admirable and valuable work for the Association, and said it had been received with very great regret. He moved the re-election for the ensuing year of the President (the Archbishop of Canterbury), and other officers.

Mrs. Charles Ebdon moved that Mrs. Harold Schwann, Miss Swift (late Matron of Guy's Hospital), and Mrs. Ashbee be appointed new members of the Council; and Lady Mary Glyn moved the reappointment of the Advisory, Finance, and Executive Committees, with the addition of Mr. Francis E. Fremantle, F.R.C.S., to the Executive. All of these propositions were carried.

Mrs. Wallace Bruce, Chairman of the Executive Committee, then moved the adoption of the annual report. She prefaced her remarks by a few words of warm appreciation of the way in which Miss Gill had carried out the work of Secretary, and said she was sorry Miss Gill was prevented from being present, so that she might receive their personal thanks and admiration. Miss Ford had been appointed as her successor.

Mrs. Wallace Bruce then briefly commented on the report presented, especially in reference to the report of the Departmental Committee of the Privy Council on the Midwives Act. It was extremely satisfactory to find the Report testifying to the value and usefulness of the Act "as an operative influence of public health"; also, though it was generally expected that the Committee would report that State aid for midwives was necessary, that no strong evidence was brought forward on this point. The reports of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute showed an increasing demand for nurses trained in midwifery; also more County Councils were giving scholarships for training, but at present they had no powers to give grants towards the maintenance of midwives when trained; fresh legislation would be necessary for this, and all members of County Councils seemed to regard with terror any proposition which, if carried out, would add to the burden of the rates.

It was being proved that the provision of midwives pure and simple did provide a practical solution for the care of maternity cases in the country districts, as midwifery alone would not provide a living wage. In these days, however, there was an approximation of midwifery and nursing duties, and a combination of the two seemed the best method.

Miss Lucy Robinson gave a report of the work of the Home at East Ham, maintained by the Association, and of the urgent and pitiful necessities of the mothers and babies attended by the midwives. Often there was no food and no gruel in the houses, and if it were not for "The Cupboard" at the Home some of the patients could not pull through. Early in her work as a midwife she discovered that half-a-crown was sufficient to save a mother's life—to provide the milk and eggs, and the chop on the third day which were essential.

The financial statement was presented by Miss Lorent Grant, after which the report was adopted.

The perennial question of the payment of medical men called in by midwives was discussed, and it was agreed to forward the subjoined resolution, proposed by Mrs. Wallace Bruce, and seconded by Lady Mary Glyn, to the Privy Council.

#### RESOLUTION.

"That inasmuch as the circulars of 1907 and 1910 issued by the Local Government Board, recommending to Boards of Guardians that they shall be responsible for the fees of medical men called in by midwives in cases of emergency when payment cannot be otherwise obtained, have in many cases been ignored; and that extreme danger is frequently incurred thereby, and that the deaths of women occur in consequence of the refusal of medical men to attend without guaranteed payment, we beg respectfully to bring before the Privy Council that legislation in the matter is of urgent necessity, and we earnestly hope that it may be included in any Bill amending the Midwives Act of 1902."

#### POUND DAY AT THE BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL.

A very successful Pound Day, organised by the Ladies' Committee and the Matron, was held at the British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street, W.C., on Monday, the 14th inst., the spacious dining-room, and the new rooms lately opened for the examination of patients, being used for the occasion.

There was a very large attendance of the Ladies' Committee and nurses trained at the Institution, and friends. The Chairman and several members of the Board of Management were also present. Much to the general satisfaction an unique gift of 2 lbs. weight of silver (£8 11s.) was made by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wormald.

Many sovereigns, and cheques for £1 were received, and the gifts, in the aggregate amounting to over £70 in cash and 1,700 lb. in groceries, etc., cannot fail to considerably relieve the year's expenditure side of the accounts.

The Hospital was thrown open to visitors, and an excellent tea, provided at the expense of the Ladies' Committee, made a pleasant finish to a most successful afternoon.

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