

HEALTH SOCIETIES: THEIR AIMS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

Mr. Eyre said that the primary aim of Health Societies is the diminution by associated, well organised, and well instructed effort of the appalling rate of infant mortality and the improvement of the health and stamina of infants who survive. Concentration on this primary aim involves contact with many other things which affect the physical and the moral health of the community. Intimately bound up with the infant's state is that of the mother before and after childbirth: the sanitary condition of the dwelling-house, the conditions of the mother's employment, the extent of her knowledge of domestic and maternal duties, and what not, in relation to her and through her to the father of the infant and other members of the family.

We are our brothers' and our sisters' keepers to their lives' end, and so a Health Society is also concerned with the promotion and maintenance of the general health and welfare of the community.

THE CO-ORDINATION OF HEALTH-PROMOTING AGENCIES.

The last paper was read by Mr. F. E. Fremantle, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., County Medical Officer of Health for Hertfordshire, who made a strong plea for the co-ordination of health-promoting agencies, and moved the following resolution, which was carried: "That this Conference, recognising that there is a great and increasing amount of valuable philanthropic work being undertaken for the physical regeneration of the nation, urges upon all engaged in such efforts the necessity for closer co-operation and for more frequent interchange of experience, and expresses the hope that the National League for Physical Education and Improvement may be more generally recognised as the federating, co-ordinating link between such institutions."

Mr. Fremantle suggested that a fund of £100,000 should be raised to build or adapt some adequate building for the purpose of an Imperial Institute of Public Health, and said he could conceive of no better object as a memorial to the late King than the endowment of such a central institute.

During the Conference, Day Nurseries in different parts of London were open for inspection by members. A particularly charming one is that recently opened in Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.

The Central Midwives Board.**PENAL CASES.**

A special meeting of the Central Midwives Board, presided over by Sir Francis Champneys, was held at the Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, on Tuesday, 13th inst., to consider charges against the undermentioned midwives, with the following results:—

STRUCK OFF THE ROLL AND CERTIFICATE CANCELLED.

Margaret Aldred (No. 3201), Hannah Arrow-smith (No. 10484), Ellen Culshaw (No. 3248), Sarah Susannah Emptage (No. 3032), Sarah Flitton (No. 6396), Elizabeth Jane Haines (No. 20651), Adelaide Harker (No. 8979), Martha Holland (No. 17330), Kate Martin (No. 16002), Julie Mitchell (No.

17501), Amelia Williams (No. 6888), all charged with negligence, resulting in one case in the death of the patient from puerperal fever and in two others of total or partial blindness of infants, and in the case of Martha Holland, her conviction at the Oxford City Police Court for being drunk and incapable on the public highway on October 22nd was proved.

Edith Mary Dalchow (No. 26094, C.M.B. Examination), who pleaded guilty to a felony at Aylesbury Petty Sessions on September 3rd, and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Mary Ann Wilson (No. 10214), charged with uncleanliness and with not wearing a washing dress. Her defence was that she wore a washing dress under her woollen one.

SEVERELY CENSURED.

Sarah Dean (No. 7556), charged with negligence and with fraudulently notifying a case as still-born.

CENSURED.

Jane Carroll (No. 16710, L.O.S. Certificate), charged with negligence.

CAUTIONED.

Sarah Linton (No. 16591).

ADJOURNED FOR THREE MONTHS.

Elizabeth Harris (No. 11450), Alice Harrison (No. 18851), Jane Snell (No. 19997).

SENTENCE POSTPONED FOR THREE MONTHS.

Mary Jane Ross (No. 20558), Rebecca Taylor (No. 14624).

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31st, 1910.

The Report of the Central Midwives' Board recently issued states that on March 31st, 1910, the names on the Midwives' Roll amounted to 29,209, an increase for the year of 1,928. Of the total 8,147 have passed the Board's examination, and 9,648 have been admitted to the Roll in virtue of prior certification under Section 2 of the Midwives' Act. The total number of trained midwives is, therefore, 17,790, as against 11,419 untrained, the percentage being 61 and 39. Owing to the incompleteness of the returns made by the Local Supervising Authorities, it is impossible to estimate with accuracy the respective proportions in the case of practising midwives.

The death occurred on Sunday, 4th December, of Miss C. R. S. Greene, who had been Lady Almoner at Queen Charlotte's Hospital for over five years.

Sister Greene was devoted to her work and showed great sympathy and kindness to the large number of patients with whom she had to deal. Her work was greatly appreciated by the Committee, and she will be missed by a large circle of friends.

Prior to the burial at Kensal Green a service was held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, of which church she was a member, and many of her friends and members of the nursing staff of Queen Charlotte's Hospital were present. A number of beautiful wreaths were sent, including one from the Committee of the Hospital, one from the Matron and Nursing Staff, and one from the Secretarial Staff.

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