

man had directed that she should be given the opportunity of writing another paper. The candidate attended accordingly at the Board Room on April 28th for the purpose of writing a paper already selected by the Chairman, between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m. At 2.30 she was found to have on her lap an open copy of the Rules of the Board and an open copy of a text book on midwifery. He (the Secretary) had accordingly directed her to leave the offices of the Board, and had informed her that she would not be admitted to the oral examination on May 1st. His action was subsequently confirmed by the Chairman.

A letter was read from the lady Hon. Secretary of the institution which prepared the candidate, who had received her training by means of a county education grant. This lady thanked the Board for giving the candidate an opportunity of writing another paper, and regretted the circumstances detailed above. She hoped the Board would take a lenient view, as she thought the candidate's conduct due to dulness rather than deceitfulness. Her superintendent spoke well of her general suitability and practical work, and Miss Hughes and Miss Twining were of opinion that these slower women settle down in country districts better than more ambitious nurses.

The Standing Committee recommended that the candidate be not admitted to any examination of the Board previous to that of June, 1912.

The Chairman said that the writer of the letter appeared to wish to substitute a certificate of extreme stupidity for one of moral character, the case was an aggravated one, it was improbable that the candidate's original statement was correct, papers did not get lost.

Sir George Fordham suggested June, 1913, as an alternative date. It was a case of serious fraud, and he questioned the advisability of re-admitting the candidate to examination at all. If she had proved so untrustworthy in the present instance her trustworthiness in her work in future was doubtful.

The Committee's recommendation was adopted, and it was decided further that the candidate be required to present a fresh schedule before entering for any future examination, and that the persons signing her certificates of moral character be previously approved by the Board.

APPLICATIONS.

Applications from five midwives for the removal of their names from the Roll were granted.

The application of Dr. James Adams, F.R.C.S., for approval as a teacher was granted.

The applications of the following midwives for approval to sign Forms III. and IV. were also granted:—Catherine Wilhelmina Mary Campbell (No. 4056), Neta Winifred Mackintosh (No. 24591), Mary Langham Muriel (No. 9780), Anna Violet Thurstan (No. 27631), Edith Minnie Walton (No. 27836). The following application was granted *pro hâc vice*:—Annie Helen Hamilton Jones (No. 24571).

The next meeting of the Board was fixed for June 15th.

THE NEXT EXAMINATIONS.

The next examinations of the Central Midwives' Board will be held on June 14th in London, at the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C., in Birmingham, Bristol, and Leeds, at the University, in Manchester at Victoria University, at Newcastle-on-Tyne at the University of Durham College of Medicine. The Oral Examination follows a few days later in each case.

The Rural Midwives Association.

Lord Clifford of Chudleigh presided at the eighth Annual Meeting of the Rural Midwives' Association, held by invitation at 3, Grosvenor Place, on Monday last, at which many friends and well-wishers of the Society are present, and spoke of the useful work done by the Association and its efforts to bring about an amendment of the Midwives' Act in certain directions. The adoption of the report was moved by Mrs. Charles Hobhouse, and seconded by Mr. Francis Freemantle, M.O.H. for Hertfordshire, and after its adoption Mrs. Debell, Hon. Secretary of the Marylebone Branch Health Society, read a paper on the provision of homes and training for mothers.

The objects of the Association are to train midwives for work in rural districts, to investigate the need for midwives in various localities, and to work with local authorities in the matter of supplying midwives in the country.

The National Society of Day Nurseries.

The Hon. Eustace Fiennes, M.P., presided at the annual meeting of the National Society of Day Nurseries, at 35, Chesham Place, on Monday last, when it was announced that thirteen additional crèches had been affiliated to the Society, and that the efficiency of the crèches since the opening of the year has been well maintained. It was also reported that the Executive Committee had under consideration a scheme for training school children in the proper care of children in connection with the affiliated crèches. The Acting Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. F. Hoffnung-Goldsmid presented the financial report, which showed that the income had failed to meet the expenditure by £131. Mr. Hoffnung-Goldsmid asked those who were unable to give pecuniary help to give cast-off clothes and toys, and the Chairman said that the Society was doing work which in some countries was not left to voluntary effort, but was under State control.

Uncertified Midwives.

The Lancashire County Council instituted proceedings at the Royton Police Court on May 17th, against Jane Stevenson, 134, Middleton Road, Royton, and Fanny Blomley, 263, Middleton Road, Royton, for practising as midwives although not certified under the Midwives' Act. In each case a fine of 10s. and costs was imposed.

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