

## The Midwife.

### The Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives.

The above Association held its annual meeting on Thursday, July 6th. The gathering took place by kind permission of Mrs. S. Bruce, at 23, Cromwell Road, S.W., and was honoured by the presence of H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, President of the Council, who presented the badges.

The midwives, attired in neat indoor uniform, made a brave show both in numbers and appearance, their cheerful, happy, and healthy faces bearing witness to the fact that arduous work under favourable circumstances, is not injurious.

Mrs. Alfred Emmott, with a few appropriate remarks from the chair, opened the meeting. For the benefit of those guests who were not acquainted with it, Mrs. Wallace Bruce, chairman of the Executive Committee, explained in a short speech, in which she gave a warm welcome to the midwives, the significance of the badge. In the form of a Maltese cross, bearing on the outer side of each triangle the beautiful and appropriate words: *Mercy, Pity, Truth, Love*, this lovely symbol is given to every midwife whose character and work entitle her to it at the end of six months. It is well worth aspiring for, and appears to be greatly prized by all the recipients. The speaker further explained that the midwives who join the Association, are bound by its rules to work for it for not less than two years. The C.M.B. certificate, which they gain at the time of their examination, is retained by the Association until the expiration of that time.

A number of extracts of letters written by the midwives themselves, and also by those in a position to judge of their work and character, were read by Miss Lucy Robinson, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee. They all attested in the most satisfactory manner, to the deep sense of duty and responsibility which these well-trained midwives bring to their useful work.

The appended list of midwives then received their badges and certificates at the hands of H.R.H. the Princess Christian, to whom a vote of thanks was moved by Sir Francis Champneys, Bart., seconded by Lady Balfour of Burleigh.

By the hospitality of the hostess, a generous tea was provided for the guests.

#### LIST OF MIDWIVES RECEIVING THE BADGE OF THE ASSOCIATION, JULY 6TH, 1911.

Mabel Allen, working at Heacham; Marion Barnes, Nottingham; Priscilla Cantrell, Horsham; Evelyn Collins, East Hanne; Ellen Gardner, Hayes; Ellen Geering, Old Sodbury; Lizzie Green, Deanshanger; Katherine James, Whittlebury; Margaret Jones, Aberystwith; Emily Kitt, Garston; Anna Levin, Manchester; May Lifford,

Kingswood; Gabrielle Loog, Newbold; Catherine Macdonald, London; Lucy Noon, Leicester; Lillian Pegg, Berriew; Ellen Perry, Northampton; Caroline Stones, Sneinton; Florence Walsh, Bexhill-on-Sea; Annie Willatt, Kimpton; Mabel Withers, Chieveley.

#### NAMES OF THOSE WHO RECEIVED THEIR C.M.B. CERTIFICATES UPON COMPLETION OF 2 YEARS' WORK FOR THE ASSOCIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES.

Mrs. Jennie Gabbett; Mrs. Helen Kitt, Plymouth; Mrs. May Lifford, Kingswood; Miss Harriett Mills, Dane End, Ware; Mrs. Menea Molony, Ropely; Miss Sarah Round, Marshfield; Mrs. Annie Simmons, London; Mrs. Alice Stevens, Mountain Ash, South Wales.

B. K.

#### HUMAN VERSUS COW'S MILK.

To advise a change from human milk to cow's milk, says Dr. J. Snowman in the *Lancet*, is very rarely required in the feeding of infants. It constitutes the exception which emphasises the rule that the breast must dominate in the realms of infant-feeding. No artifice of scientific modification can compare with the human secretion, and if it be true that the composition of milk changes while it is actually being withdrawn by the infant from the breast, so that the fore milk differs in its fat and casein proportions from the subsequent milk, it is evident that "percentage" feeding, calculated with mathematical accuracy, is a fallacious imitation of Nature. No ingenuity of contrivance can provide an infant with a "course" of food of varying composition such as it apparently obtains from the breast. But though it be vain to attempt to follow Nature to the accuracy of decimal points, it nevertheless does behove us to adhere to the broad principles of imitation. We cannot pretend to maintain these principles as long as we ignore the existence of lactalbumin and act as if it were identical with casein.

#### A CURIOUS OBJECTION.

The annual report of the medical officer of health for Stepney states that there is a curious objection on the part of some women to weigh their babies. It is often their firm belief that if a baby is weighed it will die before it is a year old.

#### CONVICTION OF CERTIFIED MIDWIFE.

At the Central Criminal Court last week Mr. Justice Darling sentenced a widow named Annie Marion Sadler (also known as Palmer), a certified midwife, to five years' penal servitude for having performed an operation upon a chorus girl named Dorothy O'Connell. The prisoner pleaded guilty. Counsel mentioned that the prisoner was tried at the last sessions on a charge in connection with the death of a West End shop girl, but the charge was withdrawn.

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