

## THE ASSOCIATION OF INSPECTORS OF MIDWIVES.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The Second Annual Meeting of the above Association was held, by kind permission of the promoters of the Nursing Conference, in the Technical School, Vincent Square, London, on April 25th. The majority of the members were present. After the reading and signing of the minutes, the members elected the officers and committee for the ensuing year. The President, Miss Macrory, M.B., and Miss Wooldridge and Miss du Sautoy, the Hon. Treas. and Hon. Sec., were unanimously re-elected. The following members were elected to serve on the Committee: Miss Cunningham, M.D., Misses Lowe, Olphert, Burnside, Pollard, McKenzie, Swain, and Renaud. The Hon. Sec. reported that a memorial had been sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer *re* the Insurance Bill, with a request that a deputation might be received. Sir Rufus Isaacs subsequently received a joint deputation of several societies, among which was the Association of Inspectors of Midwives. He promised that the word "midwife" should be inserted in the Bill in connection with the maternity benefit, but a promise that midwives should be represented on the Health Committees could not be obtained.

A long and interesting discussion took place regarding the penal work of the Central Midwives Board in relation to the Local Supervising Authorities, and certain suggestions for facilitating this side of the work of the Local Supervising Authorities and their inspectors were embodied in three resolutions, which, it was resolved, should be sent to the Chairman of the Penal Committee of the Central Midwives Board.

### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That a copy of the defence of a midwife be sent to the Local Supervising Authority in every case when it is received by the Board in time to allow of such copy being delivered to the Local Supervising Authority before the day of the hearing of the case.

2. That when notice is received by the Central Midwives Board three days before the hearing of a case that a midwife is to be present or to be represented or assisted by a friend, legal or otherwise (Rule D. 5), the Board will notify the Local Supervising Authority by telegram of the fact, and allow the said authority or its representative to appear at the hearing of the case if the Board be notified to that effect on receipt of the telegram.

3. That the representative of the Local Supervising Authority may suggest questions to the solicitor of the Board at the hearing of a penal case, for the purpose of eliciting information from the witnesses of the Local Supervising Authority, or from the accused, or from her witnesses.

Miss Burnside (Herts) gave certain statistics regarding the result to the mother and child

of the care of the recently trained midwife and of the midwife of the older type, not altogether to the advantage of the latter. She, however, felt that her statistics were not quite reliable, as the cases from which she drew them were too small. She therefore offered to draw up a report on the subject for the next annual meeting if each inspector will give her, from her area, the necessary figures regarding medical help, stillbirths, &c. It is hoped that this request will obtain a wide response.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the President, and another to Mr. Schofield for placing a room at the disposal of the Association.

### THE EAST END MOTHERS' HOME.

Viscount Goschen presided at the Annual Meeting of the East End Mothers' Lying-in Home, Commercial Road, E., held at his residence, 25, Rutland Gate, S. W., on Tuesday last.

In opening the meeting Lord Goschen said that financially the Hospital has had a good year. He referred to the success of Dr. Owen Lankester, the Chairman, in obtaining funds. If he was not a gold mine he was a successful miner. He also spoke eulogistically of the work of Miss Margaret Anderson, the Matron, who, he said, devotes her whole time, and energy, and life to the Home. All who visit the Home can tell how admirable a Lady Superintendent she is, the success of the pupils is a testimony to her teaching, and the atmosphere of the Home is an inspiration to those who work under her to put forth the best that is in them.

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. F. B. Mildmay, and seconded by Dr. W. S. A. Griffiths:—"That the East-End Mothers' Lying-in Home is engaged in excellent work, and deserves wider financial support, in order that it may be able to maintain its efficiency and enlarge the sphere of its activity. That the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1911, be taken as read, and are hereby adopted—also that the General Committee, Committee of Management and Honorary Officers, be and are hereby re-elected."

Mrs. Mildmay, in an eloquent and most sympathetic speech spoke of the drab monotony of the life of the class from which the patients are drawn, and of the love of Miss Anderson and her staff for every individual baby. She spoke also of a visit to the district with a guide known as "the happy-faced sister," and how on making a small gift to a very poor mother the latter said; "My heart beats better now."

Dr. Lankester, in moving votes of thanks to Lord and Lady Goschen and the speakers, referred also to the invaluable work done by Dr. Corner for the Home. He did not know what they would do without him.

Much interest was aroused by the presence at the meeting of a mother, born in the Home, and her baby, also born there.

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