

THE BOARD'S EXAMINATION.

The Secretary reported that for the first time there had been a falling-off in the number of candidates for the Board's Examination; during 1912 there were between 70 and 80 less than in 1911.

COST OF PENAL CASES.

The Secretary also drew attention to the great increase in the cost of the penal cases; in 1911 the amount was £420, and in 1912, £680.

Mr. Parker Young observed that it was a question whether the Board should not have the whole time services of a solicitor.

Mr. Duncan pointed out that a large proportion of the expenditure was for out-of-pocket expenses. Every statutory declaration by a doctor cost one guinea.

The meeting then terminated.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

From time to time cases are made public in which, through the enforcement of the provisions of the Midwives Act the practice of Midwifery by unskilled persons has been stopped. At the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday last the Midwives Act Committee reported that in two cases in which legal proceedings had been instituted by the Council against women for having habitually and for gain practised midwifery contrary to the provisions of the Midwives Act, convictions had been obtained. In one case the offender was charged 10s. with 14s. 6d. costs, and in the other 10s. and 14s. costs.

WELL MERITED GIFTS.

At an ordinary meeting of the Holborn Board of Guardians recently it was reported that the Local Government Board had consented to the Guardians' proposal to subscribe £10 10s. to the funds of the Maternity Nursing Association, 63, Myddleton Square, Clerkenwell, E.C., and the City of London Lying-in Hospital. Both institutions are doing excellent work in very poor neighbourhoods.

A MONTHLY NURSE WITH AN ALIAS.

At an inquest at Brixton on the infant daughter of Mr. Charles Jones, registrar of births and deaths at Balham, the father complained that on the evening the child was born the nurse returned the worse for drink. Early the next morning his wife called him into the room and said that she had been trying to quiet the child for two hours, and the nurse had done nothing to help her. At 7 a.m. the nurse called him in a very casual manner, when he found the child dead. His wife was in a state of collapse. The nurse behaved with the utmost callousness. Elizabeth Annie Kilshaw, a married woman, said that she

acted as a monthly nurse under the name of Nurse Eccles. She denied having taken any drink on the night in question, but said she was taken ill. A verdict of "accidental death" was returned. There was no evidence offered that the "Nurse" had received any training. One thing is certain, that the publication of a Register of Trained Nurses would stop the adoption of aliases amongst those aspiring to professional recognition.

THE DARWEN MOTHERS' CLUB.

The Darwen Mothers' Club, of which the Mayoress, Mrs. John Pickup is President, has for its objects:—(a) To give instruction on infant feeding and rearing, (b) to organise a fund, raised by fortnightly payments of the members, to supply in time of need, nourishment for the mothers, or milk for the babies. The members of the General Committee are expected to undertake some portion of the following:—(a) To cook necessary nourishment provided for the mothers who are unable to have it cooked for them at the time of confinement. (b) To help at the fortnightly meetings. Meetings of the members of the Club are held fortnightly, on Saturday afternoons, between 3 and 4.30, at which instruction on the care of infants is given. During the Session 1911-1912 the subjects of the Talks given were "Preventive Medicine," "On Avoiding Infection," "Epidemic Diarrhoea," "How to Prepare for Baby," "How to Feed Baby," "How to feed Baby after Weaning." Practical Demonstrations were also given in "Hygiene in the House," "Poultice and Fomentation Making," "How to Wash and Dress Baby during its First Month." Three lessons were given in cooking, and two in cutting out and making garments, from which it will be seen that the programme of the members is a very practical one.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (IRELAND) AND THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

The Local Government Board of Ireland have replied in some detail to the Guardians of the Kenmare Union, which applied to them for their views on the scheme outlined in the recent circular letter from the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, respecting the salaries and duties of the dispensary midwives, and asking whether they were at liberty, if they so decided, to accept the scheme. The Board remind the Guardians that they now appoint midwives and pay them fixed salaries out of Union funds and that on the clear understanding that the midwifery cases amongst the poor must receive priority these officers are allowed to engage in private practice, and in many rural districts they receive the bulk of whatever private practice there is, and in such districts patients of moderate means would be at a serious disadvantage if they

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