

It was agreed that the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Manchester be informed that Rule E. 20 (3) has been fully considered at each revision of the Rules and that its present form is the result of considerable experience, but that his letter shall be filed for consideration at the next revision.

Letters were read from a certified midwife approved by the Board for the purpose of training pupils complaining of the conduct of another certified midwife who had been trained by her so far as regards the practical part of the training.

The Board decided (1) that Sophia Alice Brockway Cook, No. 24314, be struck off the list of Midwives approved for training;

(2) That the further consideration of the matter be referred to the Penal Cases Committee.

APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL OF NAME FROM THE ROLL.

The applications of six women for the removal of their names from the Roll on the grounds of old age, ill-health, and inability to comply with the rules were granted.

The following midwives were approved for the purpose of training pupils Miss Emma Anderson, Nurses' Home, Alexandra Road, Grimsby, and Miss Phoebe Ann Mathews, Pentra Bach, Bagillt, Flint.

THE JUNE EXAMINATION.

The Secretary presented a report of the June Examination, which showed that the percentage of failures from training schools in the United Kingdom was 17.8; from Indian Training Schools none, as both pupils sent up (one from the Cama and Allbless Hospital, Bombay, and one from the Government Maternity Hospital, Madras) passed the examiners. Amongst pupils prepared privately, with in ten instances some additional institutional teaching, the percentage of failures was 27.7, and the total percentage 20.2.

"NURSE BETTY."

The name given by "Nurse Betty" to the police has been communicated to the Central Midwives Board, as this woman is said to have stated that she was a midwife.

The fact of the hushing-up of the "Queenie Gerald" case, the suppression of the names of her associates, and victims, and the scandalously light punishment awarded to her, makes it the duty of every nurse and midwife to have this dangerous misuse of nurses' uniform probed to the bottom if possible.

As the police have let "Nurse Betty" go free, we hope the Central Midwives Board will take steps to ascertain if the woman is a certified midwife or not. In the former case she should be cited to appear before the Board, and if not she should be prosecuted under the Act for "taking the name or title of midwife," to which she has no right.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Local Government Board have issued a circular to sanitary authorities in England and Wales, reminding them of the importance of taking all practicable measures for the prevention of epidemic diarrhoea and other infectious diseases of infants. At the same time it emphasises the value of systematic visitation of the homes of infants under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health. The Board considers that under the Public Health Act women may properly be employed to give advice, with the object of preventing infectious diseases of infancy, including those arising from improper feeding; and that the work may be united with that of Assistant Inspector of Nuisances, Tuberculosis Visitor, or School Nurse.

The second report of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board, Dr. Arthur Newsholme, is an exhaustive treatise on the question of infant mortality during the first five years of life, and covers the period from 1907-1910. It is matter for congratulation that a great saving of child life has been effected during this period, which Dr. Newsholme considers in all probability to be the result of improved sanitary and housing conditions, of more efficient municipal and domestic cleanliness, of education in hygiene, of increased sobriety of the population, and of the widespread awakening to the national importance of child mortality, with concentration on efforts of child welfare work such as have never previously occurred. At the same time there is still much room for improvement. The aim of the report has been to render conspicuous the experience of those towns, or parts of towns in which an excessive sacrifice of child life occurs; and Dr. Newsholme considers that the facts evidently call for further intensive inquiry on the part both of local Medical Officers of Health and of the Medical Staff of the Local Government Board.

The first International Congress for the Prevention of Infant Mortality was opened in Brussels on July 23rd. The King, and Prince Charles, showed their interest in the aims of the Congress by taking part in a procession representing the protection of children which paraded the streets during the afternoon.

THE ASSOCIATION OF APPROVED SOCIETIES. RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following amendments have been sent by the Association of Approved Societies to the Standing Committee which is considering the Government Bill for the amendment of the National Insurance Act:—

(1) That the four Commissions should be abolished and replaced by one Insurance Commission for the United Kingdom, or alternatively,

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