

In putting forward his motion, Dr. Sunderland said that his colleague, Dr. Russell Andrews, Physician to the Charity, and Dr. Leonard Williams, a member of the Medical Committee, thoroughly concurred with his views that it was advisable, imperative, and urgent that the Charity should take immediate steps to arrange for the attendance of women coming within the scope of the Insurance Act.

The enormous diminution in the numbers of patients treated by the Charity during the past year, as compared with the numbers treated in the previous year, namely 855, instead of 2,156 could in great measure be directly traced firstly to the effect of the National Insurance Act, and secondly to the fact that they had not, like other maternity institutions, been attending insured women. It was an unfortunate fact that during the past year they had done less than half the amount of good to suffering humanity as in the previous year. That in his point of view was one of the most pressing reasons why they should attend insured women, because the Charity was founded with the object of doing the greatest possible good from a humanitarian point of view with the money bequeathed, and he maintained that by withholding its benefits from insured women they were not fulfilling the objects of its founders and benefactors, or carrying out the wishes of the majority of its subscribers. It was imperative to keep up the numbers for another reason, *i.e.*, that if they had not sufficient patients the School could not be continued, because pupils who wished to train as maternity nurses or midwives would not enter it if there were not sufficient cases for them to gain their experience from. After discussing the question in some detail, Dr. Sunderland said that under the circumstances which had arisen they ought to decide immediately to attend insured women, otherwise it was probable that the existence of the Charity, whose useful and brilliant record in the past had made it one of the most valuable charitable institutions in Great Britain would be imperilled.

Mrs. Owens, who is both a Governor and a midwife of the Charity, seconded, and said that with regard to a woman getting the 30s. maternity benefit, her husband might be out of work, and with half-a-dozen children thirty shillings did not go far at such a time. She thought such people were suitable recipients of the Charity's "letters," whether they were entitled to the Maternity Benefit under the Insurance Act or not. In reply to a question as to the length of time which elapsed before the benefit was paid by approved Societies, Mrs. Owens said that the longest time in her practice had been eight days.

Major Killick, Secretary to the Charity, mentioned a case in which the patient did not receive the benefit for two months.

In connection with the suggestion that a payment should be required from patients who receive the Maternity Benefit, the Rev. Charles Clark

drew attention to the object of the Charity, which is to provide midwives and medical attendance to poor married women at their own homes free of expense.

After some discussion an amendment to Dr. Sunderland's resolution, proposed by Mr. Charles Hentsch, and seconded by Mr. C. J. Williamson-Pimbury C.C., was carried by the casting vote of the chairman, by which consideration of the question was delegated to a committee composed of the General Committee with the addition of Dr. Sunderland and Dr. Henry Russell Andrews in an advisory capacity. The Annual Meeting was adjourned, in order that it might receive the report of the Committee after the question had been duly considered.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

Her Grace, the Duchess of Montrose will preside at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives to be held at 16, Draycott Place, S.W., on Friday, March 6th, at 3.30 p.m., by the kind permission of Mrs. Charles Ebdon. Dr. George Reid, D.P.H., County Medical Officer for Staffordshire will give a short address on "Midwifery in the Provinces."

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following is the examination paper set to the candidates for the examination of the Central Midwives' Board, on February 12th:—

1. Draw a diagram of the principal sutures and fontanelles of the foetal skull, and name each on the diagram.
2. Mention some of the more important causes of abortion. How would you treat a case of abortion—

- (a) threatened,
- (b) inevitable,

in the third month of pregnancy until the medical practitioner arrives?

3. How would you diagnose an occipito-posterior presentation of the vertex? To what difficulties and dangers may it give rise?
4. Describe the mechanism of delivery of the aftercoming head in a breech case with the breech opposite the right sacro-iliac joint.
5. What is a White Leg? To what signs and symptoms does it give rise, and what are the principal dangers associated with it?
6. Under what circumstances would you advise that medical assistance be sought for a child during the first week of its life?

Midwives who are thinking of purchasing a midwifery practice will find in our advertisement columns, page viii, the notice of a practice, suitable for two people, now available near London.

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