

piece of dripping or butter the size of a small walnut into a basin and pour on it 7 ounces of boiling water. Directly the butter is melted stir the water into the centre of the oatmeal and work it all in with a knife. Turn the dough out, roll smooth and bake on an iron sheet over a slow fire until browned both sides. With an oil stove the best method is to put the dough in a large shallow cake tin, press it flat with a potato masher, and place the cake tin in an iron frying pan of slightly smaller diameter at the base. This prevents burning.

In the English oatcake as eaten in the North Country, the fat is omitted. Wheatmeal cake may be made in the same way. Where good brown bread is difficult to obtain this is a good substitute. The mixing process should be carried out expeditiously or the cake will be "sad."

HEALTH MISSIONER.

#### CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

A Meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at Caxton House, Westminster, on Thursday, November 19th, Sir Frances Champneys presiding.

The Standing Committee reported that a letter was received from the Clerk to the Guardians of the Walsall Union with regard to the resolution of the Board refusing to admit to Examination a candidate who had tendered a birth certificate which had been tampered with.

On the recommendation of the Committee it was agreed that the Clerk to the Guardians of the Walsall Union be informed that the Board regrets that it is unable to condone the serious offence of which the candidate has been guilty; it is willing, however, to allow her to apply again in October, 1915, on forwarding evidence satisfactory to the Board that she appreciates the gravity of her offence and is resolved to behave honestly in future.

A letter was received from another candidate for examination who had tendered a birth certificate which had been tampered with. It was agreed that the candidate be not admitted to examination.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board transmitting for the information of the Board a copy of a letter addressed to the Town Clerk of Gloucester with regard to the supervision and inspection of midwives in the City of Gloucester. It was agreed that the Local Government Board be thanked for their letter.

A letter was received from the Council of the Midwives Institute transmitting a copy of a memorial with regard to a memorandum accompanying a circular issued by the Local Government Board respecting Maternity and Child Welfare. A letter was received from the County Medical Officer of Health of Lancashire on the same subject. It was agreed (a) that the Midwives Institute be thanked for their letter; (b) that the County Medical Officer of Health of Lancashire be thanked for his letter.

A letter was received from the Clerk of the County Council suggesting the removal from the

Roll for a limited period of the name of any midwife who had been found guilty of negligence or misconduct, deserving some punishment more severe than that of censure though not to the extent of final removal of her name from the Roll. It was agreed that the letter as drafted by the Chairman be approved and sent to the Clerk of the London County Council.

A letter was received from the Clerk of the Bucks County Council asking whether the Local Supervising Authority has any jurisdiction over a certified midwife when acting in the capacity of a nurse under a medical practitioner, in attendance on a confinement. It was agreed that the Clerk of the Bucks County Council be informed that a midwife acting only as a nurse is amenable to the Act, and also to some of the rules (e.g., Rule E.5), but not to all.

A letter was read from the Clerk of the West Riding County Council with reference to the power of the Local Supervising Authority to authorise the County Medical Officer of Health to suspend a midwife from practice in accordance with the Midwives Act and the Rules of the Board. It was agreed that the letter as drafted by the Chairman be approved and sent to the Clerk of the West Riding County Council. The Chairman explained that in connection with the suspension of a certain midwife the County Medical Officer had been notified that the Local Supervising Authority had not power to delegate its duties. The Clerk of the West Riding County Council stated that the C.M.O. always made a practice of drawing attention to the rules, but intimated that the procedure of the Act was quite useless, owing to the time which must elapse before the Committee could take action.

A letter was received from a certified midwife, who was approved by the Board at its last Meeting to undertake the training of pupil midwives, asking whether the qualifying fifteen lectures may be spread over a period of seven weeks only. It was agreed that the approval of this midwife be suspended until the Board has satisfied itself that she knows and is prepared to carry out the rules of the Board.

#### APPLICATIONS.

*For Removal of Name from the Roll.*—The applications of six women for the removal of their names from the Roll were granted.

*Applications for Recognition as Teacher.*—The following applications were granted: Dr. Douglas Percival Watson, Sidney Herbert Snell, M.D., D.P.H., and Dr. John Archibald Valentine and Dr. Alexander Freear, *pro hac vice*.

*Applications of Certified Midwives for Approval to Undertake the Practical Training of Pupils.*—The following applications were granted: Johanna May Driver (No. 38559), Mary Harriet Jones (No. 1286), Lucy Alice Noon (No. 30688).

#### REPORTS.

The report on the work of the Board as amended was adopted, signed by Chairman, and is to be forwarded to the Privy Council, and the Secretary's Report on Examination 55 was adopted.

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