

in the expenditure, and the shortage of nurses had made it difficult to provide for the nursing of the large number of patients.

The Chairman referred to the great loss the hospital had sustained by the death of the Treasurer (Mr. Alfred de Rothschild), who had held the office for over thirty years. He was glad to say that Captain Anthony de Rothschild had consented to undertake the duties of this office.

If the hospital was to continue its important work on the same scale as in recent years, it was imperative that it should receive greater support. At the present time it was in debt to the amount of nearly £10,000, and he earnestly appealed for generous assistance. When so many lives were being laid down in the service of the country, it was more than ever necessary to save the children, and Queen Charlotte's Hospital was doing a great work in this direction by providing the skilled medical and nursing treatment which were so necessary for women in child-birth.

### CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

The Monthly Meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at the Board Room, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Thursday, April 18th, at 2 p.m.

The first business was the election of a Chairman, and Sir Francis Champneys vacated the chair, which was taken by Professor Briggs, who said that Sir Francis was an ideal chairman, of wide sympathies. This election afforded an opportunity, and a very welcome opportunity, to the Board to express their indebtedness to him.

On his unanimous re-election, Sir Francis thanked the Board for the kind confidence which they reposed in him. He was greatly indebted to them because every member of the Board took a public-spirited and unselfish view of his (or her) responsibilities. In such an atmosphere, business throve best.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

On the application of the Medical Superintendent of the Duffein Hospital, Calcutta, for its approval as a training school, it was agreed, if the necessary particulars were furnished, to take the matter into careful consideration.

A letter was received from the County Medical Officer for Somerset, transmitting copies of correspondence, between himself and the General Medical Council with reference to the action of a registered medical practitioner in giving a certificate to an uncertified woman certifying that she was "quite capable of undertaking the duties of an ordinary midwife," and asking the views of the Board thereon.

The Board expressed the opinion that the case was one in which representation should be made to the General Medical Council, and decided to ask the County Medical Officer whether the Somerset County Council was prepared to prosecute.

A letter was considered from the solicitor of a midwife from whom the Board had withdrawn

its approval as a teacher of pupils, asking to be informed of the reason for this action, and also that the midwife should have the opportunity of attending before the Board to be heard in the matter. The Board declined both requests.

The applications of two midwives, one of whom had falsified her certificate of birth, for admission to the Board's Examination, were refused.

The applications of fifteen midwives for the removal of their names from the Roll were granted.

#### APPROVAL AS TEACHERS.

The applications of the following midwives for renewal of approval as teachers were granted:—Rosetta Hewlett (No. 32267) and Janet Tulley (No. 3786), and that of Elizabeth Baister Sprintall (No. 33215) was also approved.

#### PENAL BOARD.

The Chairman announced that there will be no Penal Board in May. The next is to be held on Wednesday, June 19th.

### NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL, 1918.

A Course of six Lectures to prospective speakers and others interested in the Baby Week Campaign will be held on Mondays, May 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, June 3rd and 10th, at 5.30 p.m., at Dr. Williams' Library, 14, Gordon Square, W.C. (by kind permission of the Trustees).

May 6th.—"Mothercraft in the Rearing of an Imperial Race," F. Truby King, Esq., M.B., B.Sc. In the Chair, Eric Pritchard, Esq., M.D.

May 13th.—"Baby Week, its Object and its Future," Miss Alice Elliott. In the Chair, Mrs. H. B. Irving.

May 20th.—"Civic Responsibility With Regard to Child Welfare," Harold Scurfield, Esq., M.D., D.P.H. In the Chair, Amand Routh, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.

May 27th.—"Provision for Maternity," J. H. Fairbairn, Esq., F.R.C.S. In the Chair, R. Murray Leslie, Esq., M.D.

June 3rd.—"Factors of Infant Mortality," C. W. Saleeby, Esq., M.D. In the Chair, Sir John Kirk, J.P.

June 10th.—"The Working-class Mother's Point of View," Mrs. H. B. Irving. In the Chair, Lady Nott-Bower.

Cards of admission may be obtained free on application to the Secretary, National Baby Week Council, 27A, Cavendish Square, W. 1.

Stamped addressed envelope and visiting-card should be enclosed with each application.

### A SUMMER TIME DIFFICULTY.

At an inquest at Deptford a midwife mentioned the case of twins, one of whom was born five minutes before and the other shortly after summer time came into operation. She asked whether she should have registered the second child according to the old time or summer time? The coroner advised her that she should have registered it according to summer time.

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