

Sir Halliday Croom, the Chairman, intimated the finding of the Board in each case:—

That the Board finds the charges to be proved and directs that the secretary remove the name from the Roll of Midwives and cancel the certificate.

CONFERENCE ON MATERNITY NURSING.

An important Conference on Maternity Nursing in London convened by the Central Council for District Nursing in London, at which Sir William Collins, M.P., M.D., K.C.V.O., will preside and open the discussion, will be held in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Embankment, E.C., to consider the need of further provision or organization of maternity nursing in relation to the District Nursing Services of London, under the following heads:—

(a) To what extent is it desirable and practicable that maternity nursing should be undertaken by District Nursing Associations in London?

(b) The relation of maternity nursing to midwifery, and, in particular, whether it is essential that the maternity nurse should hold the C.M.B. certificate.

(c) The question of co-operation with the Hospitals for the purpose of nursing the extern maternity cases.

LECTURES ON INFANT CARE.

The first of a series of lectures on Infant Care was given in the Governors' Hall, at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, on Friday, May 3rd, at 5.30, by Dr. Truby King, whose work in connection with the reduction of the infant mortality rate in New Zealand is so well known. Dr. Truby King was invited by a committee interested in this vital question to come to this country for a year—so that those in the mother country, as well as in New Zealand might benefit by his experience—and is now working in connection with an Infant Clinic at St. Thomas', and in the houses of the mothers attending it, in the surrounding district of Lambeth.

Dr. Truby King, who illustrated his lecture with most interesting diagrams and lantern slides, spoke of the decreasing birth rate and drew a parallel between present conditions in this country and those which led to the downfall of ancient Greece and Rome, where the children were left to the care of slaves. It was essential for the public to be alive to the fact, and to the necessity for better ante- and post-natal conditions for the motherhood of the country. In New Zealand the introduction of better conditions had resulted in a gratifying diminution in the infantile death rate, and a considerable increase in the population. The question of infantile mortality was of minor importance compared with that of the infants who survived in a damaged condition.

Tickets of admission for these lectures, which are taking place on Fridays and Tuesdays, may be obtained from the Secretary of St. Thomas' Hospital, Mr. G. Q. Roberts. A stamped envelope should be sent.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

Under the auspices of this admirable Council the first of a series of lectures was given at Dr. Williams' Library, Gordon Square, W.C., on May 6th. "Mothercraft in the Rearing of an Imperial Race" was the subject of the lecture by Dr. Truby King. The keynote struck by the lecturer, *fortissimo!* was that Mothercraft is a thing that has to be learnt like any other branch of education, that, in fact, it is not instinctive. He appealed earnestly to the women of his audience to do all that can be done to prevent children from becoming weak and sickly, and to arrest the present progressive deterioration of the race. Nine-tenths of the children, he remarked, in all classes had the wrong things done for them. The important thing is to instruct the mothers who are most willing and anxious to learn. He had sometimes found cases of ideal mothercraft among the poor as among the rich, but the majority were terribly ignorant.

The death-rate of infants under one year in New Zealand has been reduced from 80-50 per 1,000 by Dr. Truby King, who has been instructing the people in mothercraft for eight or nine years, said Dr. Eric Pritchard from the Chair.

GOOD WORK DONE BY THE CHILDREN'S JEWEL FUND.

At a meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Children's Jewel Fund (a sub-committee of the National Baby Week Council), lately held at 27A, Cavendish Square, it was decided that American Red Cross Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres should be opened under local committees at Swansea, Woolwich and Middlesbrough, in addition to the one already given to Bethnal Green.

Grants were made from the Jewel Fund as follows:—Kinross Infant Welfare Centre, £100; Women's League of Service, West Ham Centre, £292 10s.

For new developments of work, £318 was allocated to the Manchester Schools for Mothers, for their new open-air Observation Nursery; £115 15s. to the Kentish Town Day Nursery, for an open-air Shelter for Delicate Children; and £681 10s. to the American Centre at Woolwich for a Home for Ailing Children.

INFECTION.

A baby smiled in its mother's face;
The mother caught it, and gave it then
To the baby's father—serious case—
Who carried it out to the other men;
And every one of them went straight away,
Scattering sunshine thro' the day.

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