

The Midwife.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S HOSPITAL.

Lord Howard de Walden, in presiding at the Annual Meeting of Governors at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, on May 30th, referred to the serious financial position of the Hospital. There was a debt of £20,000, and the Hospital had had to deposit all its securities against the overdraft at the Bank. As this was not sufficient the Committee had been compelled to take steps to raise money on the security of the freehold of the Hospital in the hope that their friends and the public generally would help them to pay off this mortgage and thus prevent any curtailment of the good work of the Hospital. The numbers of patients seeking admission were greater than ever, and it would be disastrous if it became necessary to reduce the accommodation for patients and the facilities provided for the training of Nurses and Students, who come to the Hospital from all parts of the country and our Dominions. He made an earnest appeal for additional support.

It would be remembered that the Hospitals of London Combined Appeal was launched with the object of clearing off the debts of the Hospitals. So far, Queen Charlotte's had received £1,600 from this Appeal, and the second (and final) grant was expected shortly. It was hoped that the amount will be much larger than the first instalment. While not wishing to belittle the great efforts which have been made in connection with this Appeal—efforts in which this Hospital assisted—there was a great danger that the public might obtain a wrong impression of the actual position of the Hospital. During the progress of the Combined Appeal all Hospitals had to abstain from any special appeals on their own account, and that abstention has lasted for nearly a year. In the case of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, they had to close down their Special Appeal Department, and their receipts from donations in 1922 were, in consequence, less by over £2,000 than in 1921.

Moreover, the special effort which the Hospitals in St. Marylebone were organising—under the name of the "Associated Hospitals of St. Marylebone Appeal"—had to be postponed, and the income which the Committee had hoped to receive from mass collections under this organisation has not yet materialised.

The Committee of Queen Charlotte's were very anxious that the Governors and the public generally should realise that, although the sum aimed at, namely, £500,000, has been obtained by means of the Combined Appeal, the debts of this Hospital had not been liquidated.

THE MORTGAGE.

Sir Chas. Fulley proposed that an organised effort be made to raise £8,000 for the purpose of redeeming the mortgage on the hospital freehold and buildings. The expense of the Hospital

increased by leaps and bounds during the war, but no extra money came in. To start the fund which he proposed he would gladly give £100.

Mr. A. B. Williamson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Lord Howard de Walden also promised a handsome donation.

Heartly votes of thanks were accorded to the Ladies' Association and the medical staff of the Hospital for their work during the past year.

GENERAL LYING-IN HOSPITAL.

Fourteen people sat for the test paper, at the General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, Lambeth, on Friday, May 31st. The prize winners were: First prize (10s.), Miss Marshall, Post-Certificate School, 77, Southampton Street, Camberwell; second prize (5s.), Miss Acis Sharpe, St. Mary's, 6, Marlborough Road, Ramsgate.

The following were the Questions set:—

1. What do you consider the most useful drugs for a Midwife to use? Give your reasons.
2. Give a short description of pyelitis during pregnancy and the puerperium. What signs would make you suspect failure of compensation in a cardiac case?
3. Give the chief points of differentiation between nervous unrest and dyspepsia in infants.
4. What points impressed you most in the Physical Exercises and Massage demonstration?

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The following is the paper set in the June Examination:—

1. Describe the vagina. Name the structures in contact with it and their positions.
2. How do you recognise a breech presentation? Describe in detail your management of the First and Second Stages of Labour in an uncomplicated case of this nature.
3. What are the duties of a midwife according to the Rules if she finds a purulent vaginal discharge in a pregnant woman? What are the dangers of this condition to mother and child, and what steps should be taken at the time of labour to minimise them?
4. What examination would you make in the case of a woman at full term, not in labour, to ascertain if the presenting head is engaged? What is the special importance of this examination in a primigravida?
5. What are the chief causes of fever during the puerperium? What investigation would you make in a case where the temperature on the fourth evening after delivery is 103.6 deg.?
6. A week-old baby vomits. What may be the cause, and what steps would you take in such a case?

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