

year from the passing of this Act and shall hold office for a term of three years. It shall consist of at least twelve registered medical practitioners, one-fourth of whom shall annually retire but shall be eligible for re-election after the lapse of one year. The duties of the Midwives' Board shall be as follows:

(1) To frame for approval by the General Medical Council the qualifying course of instruction for pupil midwives, and the conditions of admission to examination and registration.

(2) To make rules for conducting and superintending the examinations.

(3) To appoint the examiners and assessors, subject to the approval of the General Medical Council.

(4) To decide upon the places where and the times when examinations shall be held.

(5) To frame for approval by the General Medical Council rules regulating the admission to the Register of women already in *bonâ fide* practice as midwives at the passing of this Act.

(6) To prepare annually a General Register of midwives.

(7) To frame for approval by the General Medical Council rules for regulating the practice of midwives.

(8) To decide upon the removal from the Register of the name of any midwife for cause shown, and upon the restoration to the Register of the name of any such midwife so removed.

(9) To fill up any casual vacancy that may occur, and to nominate their successors for appointment by the General Medical Council.

(10) And generally to do any such duty as may be necessary for the due and proper carrying out of the provisions of the Act.

VII. *Rules respecting the examination of Midwives.*—For the purpose of the examination of women desiring to act as midwives, the General Medical Council shall, as soon as may be after the passing of this Act, cause to be framed and approve rules regulating the conditions of admission to examinations, the course of study to be pursued previous to examination, the method, periods, and subjects of such examination, and the general standard to be obtained by women passing the examinations,

The General Medical Council shall approve the appointment of the examiners from time to time.

The General Medical Council shall submit the rules approved by them to the Privy Council for confirmation, and the rules when so confirmed shall be forthwith officially published under the superintendence of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. In the event of the General Medical Council failing to perform the duties entrusted to it under this Act, the Privy Council shall invite some other suitable body to undertake

these duties, or shall itself forthwith proceed to do so.

VIII. *Fees and Expenses.*—There shall be payable by every woman presenting herself for examination a fee of two guineas. Should a candidate fail to pass, then for the second or any subsequent examination, the fee shall be half a guinea. In respect of registration, the fee shall be five shillings. All fees paid by midwives or by candidates for examination shall be paid to the Midwives' Board. Such Board shall devote such fees firstly, to the payments connected with the examination and registration; secondly, to the general expenses of the Board.

IX. *Power to Midwives' Board to establish a General Register of Midwives.*—The Midwives' Board shall provide by their regulations for the keeping, and the publication from time to time, of a General Register of midwives.

X. *Publication of Register.*—The Midwives' Board shall from time to time cause the Register kept by them under this Act to be printed and published, and a copy of such Register for the time being shall be evidence in all Courts that the women therein specified are registered according to the provisions of this Act; and the absence of the name of any woman from such copy shall be evidence, until the contrary be made to appear, that such woman is not registered according to the provisions of this Act. Provided always, that in the case of any woman whose name does not appear in such copy, a certified copy under the hand of the Registrar, of the entry of the name of such woman on the Register shall be evidence that such woman is registered under the provisions of this Act.

XI. *Supplemental Provision as to Register.*—The Midwives' Board shall appoint the Registrar, who may also act as Secretary to the Board. He shall be charged with the custody of the Register.

XII. *Medical Officer of Health to supervise Midwives in his District.*—Each Medical Officer of Health throughout England and Wales shall be supplied with a copy of the Register from year to year, and he shall keep this Register accessible at all reasonable times for public inspection. Such Medical Officer of Health or other Registered Medical Practitioner as the local authority may appoint, shall be the Local Supervising Authority over midwives in his district. It shall be his duty to report to the Midwives' Board any case of malpraxis, negligence, or misconduct on the part of a midwife in his district which has come to his knowledge. For his services he shall receive such fee as the Midwives' Board shall determine. No midwife shall commence practice in any district until she has first produced her certificates to the Medical

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