

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

THE NEW RULES.

The revised Rules of the Central Midwives' Board, which came into force on July 1st, provide in the case of a woman who claims to be excused two months of the six months of training required, on the ground that she has had three years' training as a nurse in a general hospital of not less than 100 beds, that it must have had this number during the whole period of such training.

The two new qualifications entitling pupil Midwives to special concessions are:—

- (1) Registration by the College of Nursing, Ltd., where a period of four months' training is substituted for six months;
- (2) A new clause also provides further "that in the case of a candidate from a Children's Hospital, or a Gynæcological Hospital, approved by the Board, a Certificate from the Secretary of such hospital to the effect that the candidate has undergone a course of six months' instruction in nursing in such a hospital shall exempt such candidate from one of the six months' training."

This must not be confused with the clause providing that if a candidate produces a certificate from the Secretary of a Public Special Hospital for Women that she has undergone a course of three years' instruction in nursing in such a hospital, maintaining not less than fifty beds during the whole of the period of such instruction, such instruction shall exempt her from two of the six months' training.

Three months' training in (a) a Gynæcological Ward, and (b) a Children's Ward in which newborn babies are received for treatment, or six months' instruction in a Children's or a Gynæcological Hospital approved by the Board, exempt candidates from one of the six months of training only.

The subjects for examination include "Ophthalmia, including its treatment in cases in which the attendance of the medical practitioner, summoned in accordance with Rule E 20, is for any reason delayed."

Also, "The proper manner of keeping the Register, keeping records, filling in forms, and co-operating with Health Agencies."

Also, "The Examination of Urine."

"Malpractice" is added in Rule D₁ to the offences for which a midwife may be cited to appear before the Board.

A new clause is added (D₁₄) regulating the procedure to be adopted if the Board postpones sentence pending a report or reports from the Local Supervising Authority. If the Board eventually decides to remove the name of the accused Midwife from the Roll, a copy of the said report or

reports is to be forwarded to her, and her observations asked for in the matters contained therein.

CHANGE OF NAME AND ADDRESS.

All Midwives, *whether practising or not*, must immediately notify the Central Midwives' Board, and the Local Supervising Authority, of any change of name or address.

THE JUNE EXAMINATION.

At the Examination of the Central Midwives' Board on June 1st, held in London, Birmingham, Leeds, and Liverpool, 652 candidates were examined, and 525 passed the examiners. The percentage of failures was 19.5.

PENAL CASES.

At a Special Meeting of the Central Midwives' Board, held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, S.W. 1, on June 22nd, charges were heard against six certified midwives, with the following results:—

Struck off the Roll and Certificates cancelled—Midwives Ellen Bidman (No. 828), Eliza Hunter (No. 2556), Elizabeth Jane Nicholson (No. 2965), Frances Amelia Preston (No. 1207).

Judgment postponed for Report of L.S.A. in three and six months' time—Midwife Margaret Scott (No. 31985).

In the sixth case the Board decided to take no action.

Midwife Harriet Elizabeth Amundsen (No. 7942) was also struck off the Roll, after the adjourned final report of the Local Supervising Authority had been considered.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD FOR IRELAND.

The Central Midwives Board for Ireland held a meeting at the offices of the Minister of Health, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on Wednesday, June 29th.

There were present Sir Edward Coey Bigger (in the chair), Sir Andrew J. Horne, Sir Wm. J. Smyly Dr. H. J. Warnock, Miss Michie and Miss J. H. Kelly.

The Chairman, in reviewing the work done by the Board for the year ended March 31st, 1921, mentioned that they had lost by death during that period two of their members, viz., Sir J. W. Byers, and Alderman Captain J. C. McWalter. Their loss has been very keenly felt by their colleagues on the Board.

The Irish Midwives Roll had been duly printed and published. It contained the names of 2,908 women. Of this large number only 167 were untrained who had been in bona fide practice as midwives prior to the passing of the Act, and who therefore were entitled to claim enrolment.

One case of malpractice, negligence or miscon-

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