

The Midwife.

Central Midwives Board.

Midwife Teachers Diploma Examination—Part I

November 23rd, 1955—2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Public Health and Social Services.

Only 5 questions are to be answered

1. A woman's husband dies immediately after the birth of her third baby. For what financial provision is she eligible from public funds?
2. Write briefly what you know of:—
 - (a) The head louse (*pediculus capitis*)
 - (b) The common flea (*pulex irritans*)
 - (c) The bed-bug (*cimex lectularis*)
3. By what means may a midwife alleviate pain in normal labour?

What regulations must be observed in each case?
4. Give the definition of a stillbirth.

What are the predisposing causes of stillbirths and how may the incidence be reduced?

What are the duties of a midwife when a stillbirth occurs in her practice?
5. State briefly the duties of:—
 - (a) A Supervisor of Midwives
 - (b) A moral welfare worker
 - (c) A general practitioner obstetrician.
6. Discuss the main factors which make a home unsuitable for domiciliary confinement.

November 24th, 1955—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Midwifery—Theory.

Only 5 questions are to be answered.

Credit will be given for clear and accurate diagrams.

1. Describe the changes which occur in the uterus during pregnancy, and explain how they prepare this organ for its function during labour.
2. Give the indications and contra-indications for external cephalic version during pregnancy.

How would you prepare a patient for this procedure?
3. Discuss the factors which influence the course of labour.
4. Give a brief survey of the conditions which may make breast feeding difficult or impossible.
5. Describe the nursing care of a premature baby weighing 3½ lbs. at birth for the first four weeks of life.
6. The general condition of a patient recently delivered deteriorates suddenly. Discuss the possible causes and outline the treatment.

November 25th, 1955—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Midwifery—Teaching.

CANDIDATES ARE REMINDED THAT THIS PAPER IS INTENDED TO TEST THEIR TEACHING ABILITY AND TEACHING METHODS AND CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLEAR AND ACCURATE DIAGRAMS.

Every candidate must attempt Question 1 and is advised to allow 1½ hours for this question.

Only 3 of the other 4 questions are to be answered.

1. Describe your teaching of the management of the third stage of labour.
2. A pupil-midwife is unable to locate the foetal head at the 38th week of pregnancy.

How would you use such a case for teaching?
3. Describe your teaching regarding moulding of the foetal skull.

4. A new-born baby does not breathe but its heart is beating strongly. Discuss this with your pupil-midwives.
5. "Poor antenatal care is worse than no antenatal care." Discuss this statement with your pupil-midwives.

Letter to the Editor.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

17, PORTLAND PLACE,
LONDON, W.1.

EDITOR,

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,
LONDON, S.W.7.

3rd January, 1956.

DEAR EDITOR,

I was distressed to read in the report of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING on the meetings of the Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in the paragraph referring to my talk on my visit to the U.S.A. and Canada, the following words:—

"She learnt a great deal from her travels but we gathered she found that true bedside nursing is not to be found in that Continent."

I am very perturbed to think that anything I may have said in my account of my visit could possibly have given rise to such an idea, as this is very far from the impression which I brought away with me of nursing in the U.S.A. and Canada and on consulting my notes I find that no mention of bedside nursing was made.

I should therefore be grateful if in the next issue of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING you would publish a statement to this effect.

Yours sincerely,

FRANCES ROWE,

Executive Secretary.

(As Miss Rowe's interesting mission was one entirely on Nursing, and as there was no mention, whatever, of "bedside nursing" in her talk, we gathered that it was not a subject considered to be of paramount importance.)

What to Read.

Letters.

- "The Capel Letters, 1814-1817," edited by the Marquess of Anglesey.
- "The Dinner Party," from the Journal of a lady of today, by Gretchen Finletter.

Fiction.

- "Some Inner Fury," by Kamala Markandaya.
- "The Captive Heart," by Barbara Cartland.
- "The Gay Delavals," by Francis Askham.
- "Less than Angels," by Barbara Pym.
- "The Sixth of June," by Lionel Shapiro.
- "Point of Order," by Gwyn Thomas.
- "The Trembling Earth," by Francis Clifford.

Word for the Month.

The tendinous part of the mind, so to speak, is more developed in winter, the fleshy, in summer. I should say winter had given the bone and sinew to literature, summer the tissues and the blood.

JOHN BURROUGHS.

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