

The Midwife.

Central Midwives Board.

First Examination.

August 5th, 1953.

From 2 to 5 p.m.

Candidates advised to attempt to answer all the questions.

1. Describe the placenta at term.
What points do you note when examining the placenta and membranes after delivery?
2. Describe what examination you would make of the breasts of an expectant mother to assess her ability to feed her baby at the breast.
How can simple treatment during pregnancy prevent some of the early troubles of lactation?
3. Describe in detail the management of an uncomplicated breech delivery in a multigravida.
What special dangers are there in a breech delivery to mother and child?
4. What do you understand by involution?
What conditions may interfere with this process?
5. How do you treat a baby immediately after delivery if it is pale and limp and has not started to breathe although the umbilical cord is pulsating?
6. A woman 36 weeks pregnant has swelling of the feet and legs. To what conditions may this be due, and how are these conditions treated?

Mother and Child Train Together.

Minister Opens Experimental Hostel for Deaf Children

A NEW TYPE of experimental hostel for deaf children and their mothers was opened recently at Castlebar Hill, Ealing, by the Minister of Health (Mr. Iain Macleod).

The hostel, which has been provided by the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital out of their endowment funds, will give an opportunity for a pilot test of methods of treating and training deaf children under school age and will also enable the hospital to experiment in methods of educating parents in the management of deaf children.

Mr. Macleod, in opening the new hostel, said that the experiment would be watched with considerable interest by his Department. He urged the closest co-operation between the management of the hostel and the local Welfare Authority so that when the mothers and children left, the Welfare Officer could follow up and provide after-care services to encourage the mother, amongst other things, to continue to exercise the techniques which she had mastered during her stay in the hostel and to help her child to live as normal a life as possible.

He suggested that it might be useful if it could be arranged for the responsible welfare officer to visit the hostel during the stay of mothers and children for whom he would have a responsibility after their discharge in order that he could fully appreciate the methods used.

Speaking of welfare services for the deaf or dumb, the Minister said that at present not more than 62 per cent. of local authorities in England and Wales had decided to exercise their power to provide such services under the National Assistance Act, 1948. The Act, he pointed out, was designed so that local authorities, at their discretion, could appoint registered voluntary organisations as their

agents for this work, and for the deaf a substantial number of local authorities with approved schemes had appointed the local Mission for the Deaf or Dumb as their agents.

New Hearing Aid.

Mr. Macleod revealed that up to August 8th this year 312,000 patients had been supplied with hearing aids under the National Health Service and that the waiting list, which had gone down from 112,365 in April, 1951, to 42,642 in February this year, was estimated last month to have fallen by about 40 per cent. on the February figure.

Children who all over the country have been given priority for hearing aids, were to be provided where they could benefit from it with a Medresco aid in which the batteries are incorporated in the aid and not carried separately, but the Minister warned that inevitably it would be some considerable time before these could be made available.

A Thought for the Month.


Autumn

What pensive beauty Autumn shows,
Before she hears the sound
Of Winter rushing in to close
The emblematic round!

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