

obstetric nurse or midwife unless she be registered under this Act.

(2) Any person who, after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and whose name is not upon the Register provided under this Act, shall take or use the name of obstetric nurse, midwifery nurse, or midwife, or any such other name, title, addition, or description as aforesaid, or who habitually and for gain shall attend or undertake to attend lying-in women, shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five pounds.

(3) No woman shall be placed on the Register until she shall have complied with the rules and regulations for admission to registration, to be laid down in pursuance of the terms of this Act by the Board acting under the direction of the General Medical Council.

(4) Any person or persons in *bonâ fide* practice as a midwife or midwifery nurse at the date of the passing of this Act, failing to register as an obstetric nurse within a period of one year after such date, who shall, habitually and for gain, attend or undertake to attend women during labour, unless registered under this Act, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5 for each offence, or indictment for a misdemeanour; provided always, that nothing in this Act shall apply to any person or persons attending a woman during labour in a case of emergency, where the services of a person registered under this Act, or of a duly-qualified medical practitioner, are not available.

4. *Privileges of Registration.*—A woman registered under this Act shall be entitled to act as obstetric nurse in England and Wales. From and after the first day of January, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety —, no woman shall be entitled to recover any fee or charge in any court for attendance or service rendered as an obstetric nurse unless such woman be registered under this Act, and the certificate of registration under this Act shall be a certificate entitling a woman to act as an obstetric nurse in cases of natural labour only in accordance with the terms of this Act, and under the rules, regulations, and medical control or supervision set forth in this Act, and any amendments of, or additions to, such regulations which may be laid down by the Board in pursuance of the terms of this Act. A certificate under this Act shall not confer upon any woman any right or title to be registered under the Medical Act, 1858, or the Acts amending the same in respect of such certificate, or to assume any name, title, or designation implying that she is by law recognised as qualified to practise medicine, or surgery, or midwifery, or to act otherwise than as an obstetric nurse as aforesaid, or that she is qualified to grant a certificate of death, or of stillbirth, or any medical certificate. Provided always that no obstetric nurse shall be entitled to recover any fee or charge for attendance as such, unless she has either personally or by a substitute (who must be a person registered under this Act) performed the duties specified by the Board.

5. *Provision for Existing Midwives.*—Any woman who at the passing of this Act has been in *bonâ fide* practice as a midwife or midwifery nurse, of which fact the Board shall be the sole and final judge, or has obtained such certificate in midwifery as may be approved by the Board, and claims to be registered before the expiration of one year from the passing of this Act, and produces to the satisfaction of the Board both evidence of her title to be so registered and evidence of good character, shall be entered on the Obstetric Nurses' Register at such a fee as the Board shall prescribe.

6. *Constitution and Duties of the Board.*—(1) Within six months after the passing of this Act the General Medical Council shall appoint a Board consisting of twenty-four registered medical practitioners as members of and to constitute a Board, which shall meet on an appointed day to draft rules, arrange meetings, appoint a chairman, registrar, treasurer, and other officials, and an Executive and other Committees. The members of the Board shall be elected for a period of three years, and on the death, resignation, or withdrawal of a member, the General Medical Council shall elect a successor from the district vacated.

2. The Board shall be selected as follows, from registered medical practitioners resident in practising in or prepared to do duty in the following districts as defined by the Registrar-General:—

London and South Eastern	7	Reps.
South Western, West Midland, and Welsh ...	6	”
Eastern, North Midland, and South Midland	5	”
York and Northern	4	”
North Western	3	”

3. No member of the Board shall act as teacher, instructor, or examiner of obstetric nurses, and no member of the Board shall take any part in any inquiry respecting the conduct of any obstetric nurse to whom he has acted as teacher or instructor.

4. The Board shall

- (a) Lay down rules for education and training for qualification of obstetric nurses.
- (b) Make rules for conducting and superintending the examinations for qualification of obstetric nurses.
- (c) Conduct the examinations and appoint the examiners.
- (d) Decide upon the places where and the times when examinations shall be held.
- (e) Frame and if necessary from time to time alter rules and regulations governing the practice of obstetric nurses.
- (f) Frame regulations for the proper conduct and inspection of any premises an obstetric nurse may reside in or rent or be tenant of, and wherein she receives for obstetric care and attendance a pregnant or lying-in woman.
- (g) If any obstetric nurse shall be convicted in England or Ireland of any felony or misdemeanour or in Scotland of any crime or offence or shall after due inquiry be judged by the Board to have been guilty of misconduct as an obstetric nurse the Board may if they see fit direct the Registrar to erase the name of such obstetric nurse from the Register, or suspend her registration certificate for a definite period. For the purposes of this Bill the misconduct as an obstetric nurse shall include any omission to send for a registered medical practitioner where the case is not one of natural labour. The Board may after due inquiry restore to the Register the name of any person removed therefrom.
- (h) The Board shall have power to delegate the duty of inquiry into cases of misconduct to Committees of their number, and such Committees shall have power to suspend the registration certificate of any nurse pending inquiry by the Board.
- (i) And generally, by Committee or otherwise, do any such duty as may be necessary for the due and proper carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

(To be continued.)

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