

Central Midwives' Board.

At a meeting of the Central Midwives' Board, Dr. F. H. Champneys in the chair, held at the Board Room, 6, Suffolk Street, S.W., on February 25th, 1904, the following business was transacted:—

1. A letter was read from the President and the General Secretary of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, setting out the difficulties that would be experienced by the Irish Chartered Maternity Hospitals in enabling their pupil midwives to comply with the rules of the Board as to personal delivery of twenty cases and a ten days' puerperium. A copy of the following resolution of the Section of Obstetrics, adopted by the General Council, was enclosed:—

"That in the opinion of the Obstetrical Section of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, any woman holding the nursing certificate of the Irish Chartered Maternity Hospitals should be deemed to have complied with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board regulating the course of training of pupil midwives, and should be eligible to present herself for the examination of the Central Midwives' Board."

After consideration of the letter and the resolution, it was resolved:—

"That, having considered the letter addressed to them by the President and the Secretary of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, the Board regret that the suggested alterations were not brought to their notice before the rules were sent to the Privy Council, as, having been approved by that body, it is impossible for the Board to alter them."

2. Various applications for recognition by the Board in different capacities were referred to the Standing Committee.

3. After consideration of applications for certificates, the names of 917 women were passed under Section 2 of the Act, and ordered for entry on the Roll. Of this total one claimed as holding the certificate of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, 291 that of the Obstetrical Society of London, nine that of the Rotunda Hospital, four that of the Coombe Hospital, fourteen that of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, nine that of the Liverpool Lying-in Hospital, two that of the British Lying-in Hospital, three that of the Glasgow Maternity Hospital, eleven that of St. Mary's Hospital (Manchester), three that of the City of London Hospital, one that of the Salvation Army Hospital, and 569 were admitted as having been in *bona-fide* practice for one year prior to July 31st, 1902.

4. The question of the payment of a registered medical practitioner sent for on the advice of a midwife in compliance with Section E, Rule 17, of the Rules of the Board was considered.

After discussion it was resolved unanimously:—

"That, inasmuch as no provision is made in the Midwives' Act, 1902, for the payment of legally qualified medical practitioners, the Government be requested to take the necessary steps for amending the Act, by introducing a section or otherwise, to provide for the payment of legally qualified medical practitioners when called in by midwives in difficult cases."

The Secretary was directed to send a copy of the foregoing resolution to the Privy Council.

5. The question of framing a scheme of examinations to be instituted by the Board was referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report.

The American Nursing World.

ELIGIBLE LIST OF VOLUNTEER NURSES.

The Surgeon-General of the United States has deemed it advisable to open in his office what shall be known as the "Eligible List of Volunteer Nurses." The names of acceptable graduate nurses who are willing to serve in time of war or national emergency will constitute this list, and the requirements for enrolment shall be as follows:—

Applicants must have graduated from a training-school for nurses which gives a thorough professional education, both theoretical and practical, and which requires at least a two years' residence in an acceptable general hospital of not less than fifty beds. Graduates from special hospitals, from insane asylums, or private sanatoria will not be considered, unless their training has been supplemented by not less than six months in a large general hospital.

Application for enrolment must be made to the Surgeon-General, and before being accepted the applicant must submit the following:—

1. A statement of her physical condition, filled out in her own handwriting and sworn to before a public notary.

2. A certificate of her health from at least one reputable physician personally acquainted with the applicant.

3. The name of the school and the date of her graduation.

4. A certificate concerning the moral, physical, and professional qualifications of the applicant as shown by the records of the hospital will be furnished by the superintendent of the training-school from which the applicant graduated. If she was trained under a former superintendent of nurses, her endorsement is also desirable.

Blanks for these purposes will be furnished by the Surgeon-General.

Approved candidates will be placed on the eligible list for appointment in event of war or national calamity.

Each nurse must agree to enter active service as she may be needed in time of war or national calamity. On January 1st and July 1st of every year she shall report by letter to the Surgeon-General, giving her address and enclosing a certificate from some reputable physician showing the condition of her health at that time.

When called into active service these nurses will be subject to all established rules and regulations, and will receive the pay and allowances of nurses of the Army Nurse Corps, as set forth in General Orders No. 54, War Department, November 16th, 1903.

DITA H. KINNEY,
Superintendent, Army Nurse Corps.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)