

be severely censured, and a report asked for from the Local Supervising Authority in three and six months' time. Incidentally, the Board felt that they ought to have received more assistance from the Bridgwater Nursing Association. It was a public duty to assist the Central Midwives' Board and the Bridgwater Nursing Association was very failing in its duty in not doing so. The Board retained Mrs. Pitman's certificate until the expiration of the six months above referred to.

The Penal Board then terminated, and the Monthly Board took place.

THE MONTHLY MEETING.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

On the Report of the Standing Committee, letters were considered from Dr. Thresh, County Medical Officer for Essex, and from Mrs. Gifford, Hon. Secretary of the Aldham, Copford, and Mark's Tey Nursing Association, as to the refusal of medical practitioners to attend when summoned on the advice of a midwife. The Board decided to reply that no blame can attach to the midwife if she strictly carries out the rules of the Board as to summoning medical assistance.

The Board were of opinion that if the Committees of these Associations wrote to the medical men in question guaranteeing them a guinea fee in the event of their attendance, the difficulty would be obviated.

Letters were considered from the Hon. Secretaries of the Devon and Cornwall Training School, the Devonshire Nursing Association, and the Cornwall County Nursing Association, asking the Board to make arrangements to hold the written part of the examination locally. The Board decided that the request be granted subject to an undertaking being given to observe the terms and conditions fixed by the Board as to the conduct of the examination.

In reply to a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Wiltshire Nursing Association, asking the Board to make arrangements for holding the written part of the examination locally at the various training centres, it was decided that each application for holding the written examination locally be considered on its merits.

A letter was considered from the Secretary, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, asking the Board to request the examiners to simplify as far as possible the wording of the Examination papers. The Board decided to reply that the matter is receiving the attention of the Board.

A letter was considered from the General Secretary, Medical Defence Union, as to a certified midwife prescribing for a patient suffering from influenza, and appending the initials C.M.B. to her name. The Board decided that the Medical Defence Union be informed that the midwife has undertaken to discontinue the use of the initials C.M.B., and that it does not appear from the evidence before the Board that the midwife has prescribed.

At the same time, in our view, it is not desirable that midwives should allow their names to appear in the public press, as advocating patent medicines.

SECRETARY'S REPORT ON EXAMINATION No. 23

The Secretary presented a report on Examination No. 23, held on June 9th, 1909, from which it appeared that 613 candidates gave notice of presenting themselves, of whom six failed to complete the Examination from illness and other causes.

The remaining 607 included 71 previous failures, and of these 43 passed.

The number of candidates and percentage of failure at the various centres were as follows:—

Centre.	Candidates.	Failures.	Per-centage.
London	286	49	17
Birmingham	57	9	16
Bristol	60	13	21.7
Manchester	139	30	21.8
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	65	11	17
Total	607	112	18.5

Of the successful candidates there were 260 who intended to practise as midwives, 205 who did not, and 30 uncertain.

Of the 260 meaning to practise as midwives there were 119 who intended to practise in rural districts, 79 who did not, and 62 uncertain.

ANALYSIS OF TRAINING.

JUNE 9TH, 1909.

Training School.	Total	Passed	Failed	Percent- age of Failures
LONDON.				
British Lying-in Hosp.	4	3	1	25
City of London Lying-In Hosp. 9	8	1	11.1	
Clapham Maternity Hosp. ...	10	10	0	0
East End Mothers' Home ...	11	10	1	9
General Lying-In Hosp.	15	14	1	6.6
Guy's Inst.	4	2	2	50
London Hosp.	11	11	0	0
Middlesex Hosp.	3	3	0	0
New Hosp. for Women	2	2	0	0
"Regions Beyond" Mission- ary Union	2	2	0	0
Queen Charlotte's Hosp.	30	27	3	10
Salvation Army Maternity Hosp.	7	6	1	14.3
Shoreditch Union Inf.	1	0	1	100
Woolwich, Military Families' Hosp.	2	0	2	100
ENGLAND (except London).				
Aldershot, Louise Margaret Hosp.	4	4	0	0
Aldershot, Hosp. for Soldiers' Wives	1	1	0	0
Birkenhead Maternity Hosp. 7	5	2	28.6	
Birmingham, Aston Union Workhouse	4	4	0	0
Birmingham, King's Norton Union Inf.	2	1	1	50
Birmingham Maternity Hosp. 22	21	1	4.5	
Birmingham Workhouse Inf. 3	2	1	33.3	
Brighton and Hove Hosp. for Women	8	8	0	0

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