

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

As we notified last week, the first examination for the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland took place recently in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen simultaneously. Seventy-seven candidates entered for the examination, and sixty-nine were successful in passing.

In the centres where a small number of candidates appeared the examination was completed in one day. The written examinations took place in the forenoon, and the orals were held in the afternoon.

The following were the successful candidates:—Mrs. M. Crockett, Mrs. M. Tonner, Mrs. M. Savage, Mrs. S. Brown, Miss A. B. W. Lang, Miss A. M. Roberts, Miss F. R. Bamber, Mrs. M. Bryce, Mrs. A. Muirhead, Miss M. M. Adam, Mrs. H. Y. Platt, Miss D. Mackay, Miss B. Fraser, Miss J. K. Petrie, Miss B. Anderson, Mrs. M. W. G. Nelson, Miss E. J. Fleming, Mrs. J. K. McIntyre, Mrs. S. Hamilton, Mrs. M. B. Malcolm, Mrs. E. Lewis, Miss J. M. Currie, Mrs. A. Giffen, Mrs. H. Montgomery, Mrs. C. A. Swandells, Mrs. H. W. Hepburn, Miss M. Jacobs, Miss R. Thomson, Mrs. M. Reid, Miss M. Gilmour, Miss A. Dempster, Mrs. H. McCluskey, Mrs. E. Mann, Miss F. M. McLean, Mrs. M. A. McKeown, Mrs. A. Steele, Miss J. Matheson, Mrs. E. Orr, Mrs. E. Patterson, Mrs. M. M. Armstrong, Mrs. E. Kinnear, Mrs. M. Findlay, Mrs. F. Rhodes, Mrs. M. Fuery, Mrs. A. Couper, Mrs. E. Black, Mrs. C. A. Miller, Mrs. M. S. Andrew, Mrs. E. Roddy, Mrs. J. R. Steele, Mrs. A. Monagle, Mrs. M. Needham, Mrs. M. G. Macfarlane, Miss A. Gart, Mrs. I. D. Watson, Mrs. S. Cairns, Mrs. G. G. Weir, Mrs. M. M. M. Kay, Mrs. E. M. Wilson, Mrs. J. Moore, Miss J. L. Thomson, Mrs. E. B. Boyle, Mrs. M. McDickom, Miss Alice Robb, Miss I. Skadle, Miss F. F. Henderson, Mrs. C. Brown, Mrs. I. Fotheringham, Miss I. M. Moses.

It will be observed what a large proportion of these successful candidates are married women, 47 out of 69, i.e., just over two-thirds.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following is the examination paper set by the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, at its examination on October 30th:—

1. How would you diagnose a breech presentation? What are the dangers (a) for mother, (b) for child? Describe how you would manage a breech case.
2. Describe the midwife's duties to the mother during the third stage of (a) a normal labour and (b) a labour complicated by hæmorrhage.
3. What are the differences between the mother's and cow's milk? In what way can cow's milk be modified for the feeding of the infant?

4. What is a crossbirth or transverse presentation, and how would you diagnose the condition?

5. What symptoms, during the later weeks of pregnancy, should be regarded as premonitory of an attack of convulsions? What treatment should be adopted?

6. Give fully the treatment of the following conditions:—(a) asphyxia pallida; (b) ophthalmia neonatorum.

THE REPORT OF THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

From the report of the Central Midwives Board (Eng'and) to which we referred last week, we learn that on March 31st, 1916, the Midwives' Roll contained the names of 40,513 women, an increase of 1,644. Of the total number 21,014 have passed the Board's examination and 9,529 have been admitted in virtue of prior certification under Section 2 of the Midwives Act. The trained midwives are consequently 30,543, and the untrained 9,970, the respective proportions being 75.4 per cent. and 24.6 per cent. The percentage of trained midwives who practice as such is relatively small, and may be estimated at less than 22.1 per cent. of those on the Roll. Of the untrained midwives it is probable that about 53.5 are in practice, though frequently to a small extent only. Although the number of names appearing on the Midwives Roll increases annually the proportion of practising midwives diminishes. This diminution is actual as well as relative.

In the Midwives Roll a dagger is prefixed to the name of every woman appearing in the list who has notified her intention to practise. The total number of practising midwives is ascertained to be 12,087, of whom 6,754, or 55.8 per cent., are trained and 5,333, or 44.1 per cent., untrained.

At a recent meeting of the L.C.C. it was agreed that the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis be asked to arrange for messages summoning medical aid in cases of urgency when required by certified midwives to be telephoned by the station police on the understanding that in rendering this service the police will be free from liability in respect of medical fees. It is understood that the Commissioner is willing to sanction the arrangement.

The North Islington Maternity Centre and School for Mothers is doing good work amongst the mothers of that poor district; each week there is one ante-natal and seven post-natal consultations, at which the mothers and babies are seen by the doctors, advice given, and babies weighed, &c. The staff consists of three doctors, five trained nurses, and a number of voluntary workers.

previous page

next page