

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

PENAL CASES.

At a special meeting of the Central Midwives Board, held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings on Wednesday, February 20th, charges were heard against six midwives, with the following results:—
Struck off the Roll, and Certificate Cancelled.—Midwife Elizabeth Cox (No. 2,240).

Censured.—Midwife Sybil Imray (No. 21,834).

In four instances judgment was adjourned, a report being asked for from the Local Supervising Authorities in three and six months' time.

In consequence of an interim report received as to Midwife Florence Maria Thetford (No. 13,553) her name was struck off the Roll.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on the morning of February 21st.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

The following was amongst the business transacted:—

The Chairman and Miss Rosalind Paget were appointed to represent the Central Midwives Board on the Provisional Executive Committee of the Central Council for the Physical Welfare of Women and Children.

The Board approved a proposed scheme for the provision of trained midwives, and medical assistance for midwives in the County of Durham.

APPLICATIONS.

Applications were granted—

From forty-five midwives for the voluntary removal of their names from the Roll.

From Mr. John F. Briscoe, M.R.C.S., for approval as lecturer *pro tem*, and from Dr. George A. Cardew, as joint lecturer for the duration of the war.

From Mr. David N. Morgan, F.R.C.S.I., for approval as teacher *pro hac vice*.

From Midwife Gladys K. S. Robson (No. 37,719) *pro hac vice*, and Midwife Mary Harvey (No. 27,995).

The Chairman moved the following motion, which was carried:—

"That, having regard to the urgent necessity of securing the reciprocal treatment of midwives certified in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions and of otherwise bringing into harmony the laws governing the practice of midwifery in the different parts of Great Britain, the Lord President of the Council be requested to introduce into Parliament, as soon as may be, a Bill to amend the Midwives Act, 1902, by enlarging the scope of the powers of the Central Midwives Board on the general lines laid down by the Midwives (No. 2) Bill, 1910, and recently adopted in the Act for Scotland and Ireland."

LIST OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

At the examination of the Central Midwives Board held on February 1st, 490 candidates were examined, and 393 passed the examiners. The percentage of failures was 19.8.

TAKE COVER AND ALL CLEAR.

We have commented before in these columns on the spirit and pluck of our district midwives who "carry on" as usual during the air raids.

Twins were born in one poor locality during the last raid.

"Nurse came and stayed with me a long time, she did."

"Oh, we don't take any notice," said nurse, cheerily, "we just have to go out as usual."

The twins are rather premature (is it to be wondered at?), but they are a dear little pair.

The "lady wot does for me" received visitors in the lying-in room at an early date. On the morning that we were privileged to see the "raid babies" she was taking a snack on a box beside her patient's bed, and scooping marmalade out of a 2 lb. pot with her knife.

She answered our enquiries good-naturedly, and between, or rather during, the consumption of large mouthfuls of bread and the aforesaid delicacy.

Mrs. Green was "gettin' on fine, thanks. Wot's the bibies nimes goin' to be? O Take Cover and All Clear," she replied with the ready wit of the East-ender.

IS IT LEGAL?

Miss M. Rea, Grosvenor Road, Belfast, who was recently appointed midwife for Kilrea dispensary district, informed the Coleraine Board of Guardians on Saturday that she now declined the position, as she had since ascertained that the private practice would not compensate her for the inadequate salary offered by the Board. The Clerk said Miss Rea was the second nurse to refuse the position after being appointed. The salary was £30 with a bonus of £7 10s. After some discussion the Board decided to hold Miss Rea's testimonials and certificates unless she paid a sum of £3, the cost of advertising for a nurse.

We wonder if this is a legal proceeding upon the part of the Guardians. We very much doubt it, although it is to be regretted that the midwife in question repudiated her agreement.

Let the Guardians offer a living wage, which their present emoluments are not.

LECTURES ON INFANT CARE.

March 4th.—The Early Symptoms of Nervous Disease in Children. By David Forsyth, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician, Evelina Hospital for Children, 1, Wimpole St., S.W. 5.30 p.m.

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