

The Midwife.

THE ROYAL MATERNITY CHARITY OF LONDON.

The Annual Meeting of the Royal Maternity Charity of London was held on Wednesday, February 12, in the new offices of the Charity, 38, John Street, W.C. 1. Mr. Inigo Tasker occupied the chair. The report was presented by the Secretary, Mrs. Elliott, who has succeeded Major Killick in this office.

The Charity is now no longer a training school for midwives, but its trained midwives are doing good work, as the statistical report of the Secretary for the year ending December 31st, 1918, to the Medical Committee, shows. The cases attended were 369, and 382 infants were born, of whom 213 were males, 169 females; 12 were cases of twins and there was one case of triplets. The ages of the mothers varied from 19 to 49. There were no maternal deaths; 6 infants died, and there were 19 still-births. Medical help was sent for in 7.59 of the cases. The cost per patient was £3 17s. 8½d.

We are glad to learn from the 162nd Annual Report of the General Committee that in view of the extra cost of living the Committee have resolved that a war bonus of four shillings per child should be granted to the midwives. No one feels more the increased expense of living than midwives and district nurses, and the strain of the extra work which devolves upon them just now makes it incumbent that they should keep fit if they are not to break down. Their pay should therefore enable these indispensable public health workers to live in comfort.

Since the outbreak of war the Charity has attended 1,320 wives of sailors and soldiers.

We congratulate the Committee on the new offices, very centrally situated at the corner of John Street and Theobald's Road. They are on the first floor, and though in the heart of the Metropolis have a most pleasant outlook over Gray's Inn Gardens. We hope that the move, and the reductions which have been made in expenditure, will inaugurate an era of financial prosperity, and that the hampering loan and overdraft of over £5,000 will be wiped out.

We were pleased to find a woman secretary in charge of this essentially woman's work.

The Local Government Board has decided that in order to qualify for a grant under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, "the maternity nursing should be undertaken by a woman with the certificate of the C.M.B.; failing this qualification the Board should be furnished with evidence of her competency if a grant is claimed."

"A great many babies are being thrown away just now," said Mr. R. Kemp, coroner, at an inquest at Ealing on a newly born child found on allotments.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

The examination of the Central Midwives Board, held on January 27th in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee, has concluded with the following results:—

LIST OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

EDINBURGH.

Miss Elizabeth Beldon, Mrs. Jane Dowie, Miss Mary J. Hayton, Mrs. Janet Hornsby, Miss Margaret H. Lawson, Mrs. Helen P. Lynch, Miss Isabella L. McIntosh, Miss Elizabeth B. Nicoll, Miss Violet E. Nurse, Mrs. Margaret C. F. Robertson, Miss Mary B. Syme, Mrs. Margaret Tague, Miss Catherine Wilson, Mrs. Jane Young.

GLASGOW.

Miss Nelina Aird, Miss Margaret I. Allan, Miss Mary E. Bates, Miss Catherine K. Black, Miss Ann M. Cameron, Mrs. Flora Cumming, Miss Christina C. Dickie, Miss Jane Donald, Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan, Mrs. Christina C. Finlay, Mrs. Margaret Foley, Miss Agnes R. Hall, Miss Mildred B. Jack, Mrs. Catherine Johnstone, Miss Mary G. Johnstone, Miss Elizabeth W. McDonald, Miss Maggie A. Macdonald, Miss Johanna McLure, Miss Madeline M. Macpherson, Miss Anne Martin, Miss Grace Menzies, Miss Dinah Moreland, Miss Joanna Munro, Miss Helen J. Neish, Miss Evelyn M. Poole, Miss Christina Ramsay, Mrs. Sarah M. Richmond, Miss Muriel F. Roy, Miss Agnes S. Strang, Miss Mary C. Walker, Miss Frances M. Wildish.

DUNDEE.

Miss Elizabeth D. Douglas, Miss Annie Garden, Miss Mary A. Gibson, Mrs. Jessie Howe, Mrs. Anna Manning.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following is the examination paper set at the examination of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland on January 27th:—

1. What are the symptoms and signs of pregnancy at the end of the sixth month?
2. What do you understand by accidental hæmorrhage, and state the varieties, dangers, and diagnosis? What treatment would you carry out, awaiting the doctor's arrival?
3. Give the causes, risks, and management in a labour complicated by prolapse of the cord.
4. Define a "pendulous abdomen." State how it affects labour, and how you treat such a case.
5. *The Umbilical Cord*: (a) When and where do you tie and cut it? (b) How do you treat it if it bleeds after tying? (c) If bleeding begins after it has dropped off, what should you do?
6. What are a midwife's duties to the child according to the Rules of the Central Midwives Board?

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