

# The Midwife.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

### PENAL CASES.

A special meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at the Board's Offices, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on January 23rd, at 10.30 a.m.

Charges were heard against three certified midwives, with the following results:—

*Struck off the Roll and Certificate Cancelled.*—Midwives Mary Jane Rose (No. 20,558) and Mary Ann Smith (No. 12,110).

*Report asked for from Local Authorities in three and six months' time.*—Margaret Ann Smith.

### MONTHLY MEETING.

The Monthly Meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at the Board's Offices, on January 23rd, after the special Penal Cases meeting.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

A letter was received from the Local Government Board asking the Central Midwives Board to reconsider the form of the draft Rules approved at the Board Meeting of December 19th, 1918, requiring a midwife to notify the Local Supervising Authority when she has advised artificial feeding.

It was agreed that Draft Rule E.12 be amended to read as follows:—

"A midwife must forthwith notify the Local Supervising Authority of each case in which it is proposed to substitute artificial feeding for breast feeding."

#### APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

The Board endorsed the recommendation of the Standing Committee "that it is desirable to appoint an Assistant Secretary with a view to his appointment as Secretary, should the Board so determine, on the retirement of the present Secretary on September 6th next.

The Chairman, Miss Paget and Dr. West were appointed a sub-committee to consider the applications, and to bring before the Board the names of three candidates for appointment of one of them by the Board.

#### CONSTITUTION OF CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The Board considered a representation to the Privy Council with regard to the expediency of modifying the constitution of the Board, and agreed that a "representation be made to the Privy Council under Section 1 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, that it is expedient to modify the constitution of the Board as indicated in the Memorandum now approved by the Board and signed by the Chairman.

#### THE RULES.

The Secretary was directed to forward Rules framed by the Board under the Midwives Act, 1918, to the Privy Council for approval. The rules dealt with the payment of expenses incurred by members, and the conditions under which midwives may be suspended from practice in penal

cases. It was also agreed to seek the approval of the Privy Council for the Form of Certificate to be granted to women certified by the Board by reason of holding an equivalent certificate obtained in any other part of His Majesty's Dominions.

It was decided to grant the application of Miss Christina Marshall, a Scottish certified midwife, for admission to the English Roll on payment of the prescribed fee.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL AS TEACHERS.

*Midwives.*—Midwives Elizabeth Phoebe Hughes (No. 26,163), Louisa Ashby (No. 40,684), Edith Elizabeth Waring (No. 43,605).

*Medical Practitioner.*—Edward James Morris, M.D. *Pro hac vice.*

## NEED OF MATERNITY RESEARCH WORK.

Dr. Amand Routh, giving evidence before the National Birth Rate Commission last week, stated, as reported by the *Times*, that the ante-natal death-rate could be enormously reduced if all expectant mothers came under efficient medical supervision. It was now known that unborn children can be safely treated for congenital syphilis by salvarsan, both through their mothers during gestation and after their birth, and that about 50 per cent. became apparently healthy, but the after-history of these cases needed careful study. Maternal toxæmia, which caused the frequent death of mother and child, was caused by unknown chemical poisons. The virulent and sudden types were practically incurable, and only research could discover the nature of the poison and point to the antidote or other means of treatment. Accidents and complications of labour constituted the greatest single group of causes of ante-natal and natal death (probably over 25 per cent.). Most complications were discoverable before full term, and the surgical or manipulative treatment, if required, could be adopted then or at a prearranged date.

## LECTURES ON INFANT CARE.

A Course of Advanced Lectures on Infant Care for Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers, Infant and Welfare Workers commenced at 1, Wimpole Street, W., on Monday, from January 27th to April 14th, from 5.30 to 6.30 p.m. The Course is in preparation for the advanced certificate of the National Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality. For particulars, apply to the Secretary of the Association, 4, Tavistock Square, London, W.C. 1.

Fee, for Course of twelve lectures, 5s.; for any one of these lectures, 1s. (applied for in advance). No tickets can be paid for at the door.

A woman with a Central Midwives Board certificate has been nominated in Barnet as a candidate for the London County Council in the coming elections.

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