

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The Monthly Meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held in the Board Room, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Friday, March 19th.

A letter was considered from the Assistant Clerk of the London County Council stating that in many cases the omissions and failures on the part of midwives to observe the Rules of the Board were attributable to the fact that such midwives have undertaken more confinement cases than could be coped with, and suggesting the desirability of limiting the number of cases which a midwife should be allowed to take in the course of a year.

The Board considered it impossible to adopt this suggestion as the number of cases which can be taken in the course of a year by a midwife, without affecting the proper conduct thereof, "depends on factors of a varying nature, such as concentration and dispersal of cases, the normality or otherwise of the cases, the powers of endurance of the midwife, and the like. The procedure for dealing with midwives who neglect their duties is laid down by the Rules of the Board, and in the opinion of the Board is sufficient for the purpose of preventing undue multiplication of cases undertaken."

The Board decided to reply in the affirmative to an inquiry from the Matron of the Leeds Maternity Hospital as to whether it was permissible for pupils to be sent to the Infant Welfare Centre at Leeds, or other Centre of instruction in the care of infants for two or three weeks, and to count such period as part of their training (provided that such attendance does not in any way interfere with their training in the subjects set out in Rule C 5 of the Board's Rules during the period covered by such attendance).

A DISTINCTIVE BADGE.

In regard to a letter from Miss May Hilton (No. 46099) asking on behalf of herself and other midwives for permission to wear a registered badge designed and approved by the Board, it was decided to reply "that until the Board has evidence that a distinctive Badge is desired by a sufficient number of midwives it prefers to take no steps in the matter."

APPLICATIONS.

The following applications were granted:—

For Approval as Lecturer.—Edward Blythe Hurst Hughes, Esq., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.; Edward Douglas Whitehead Reid, Esq., M.B.

For Approval as Teacher.—Midwife Maude Ethel Walton (No. 28956). (Adjourned application.): (a) Midwives Margaret Clark Chappell (No. 47931), Louisa Mary Lee (No. 4292), Alice

Hortensia Frances Maycock (No. 31266), Kate Claribel Richard (No. 48917), Gertrude Trotter (No. 32520).

(b) (For Workhouse pupils only); Midwife Margaret Ann Richards (No. 36274).

(c) (Pro hac vice): Midwives Mabel Byard (No. 37877), Louisa Margaret Thomas (No. 41370) Eliza Maud Hendry (No. 26574), Catherine Agnes Macdonald (No. 30669).

The Board directed the names of eight Irish Midwives and one Scottish midwife to be entered on the Midwives Roll, and a certificate granted to each of them (the standard of training undergone and the examinations passed by them being equivalent to the standard adopted by the Board) on payment of the fee of one guinea, in accordance with the terms of the Midwives Act, 1918, Section 10.

EXAMINERS AND LECTURERS.

The List of Examiners submitted by the Secretary was approved to come into force for one year ensuing April 1st next.

The revised List of Lecturers was approved for the same period.

MIDWIVES CERTIFIED AS TEACHERS.

The present approval of midwives certified as teachers was extended until April 22nd next.

PENAL CASES.

A special meeting of the Central Midwives Board under the provisions of Rule D 8 was held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Thursday, March 18th, for the hearing of charges against certified midwives when the following midwives were struck off the Roll and their certificates cancelled:—

Louise Blakey, No. 3909; Ann Martin Bragg, No. 13932; Elizabeth Davy, No. 17405; Fanny Royle, No. 14433; Sarah Jane Saville, No. 18914.

Two midwives were also struck off the Roll and their certificates cancelled, as they were found guilty of misconduct in that being single women they gave birth to illegitimate children.

UNWANTED BABIES.

On Friday, March 19th, by the kindness of Mr. Charles Gulliver, a matinee was held at the Palladium for Mrs. Lloyd George's Fund for Unwanted Children, and she decided that the great bulk of the money received should be devoted to the National Children's Adoption Association, which has opened the Hostel for unwanted babies at "Tower Cressy," Aubrey Road, Campden Hill.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

The Midwives Act Committee of the London County Council have appointed Brigadier-General R. J. Cooper, C.B., C.V.O., to be their Chairman and Mrs. May Harmer to be their Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)