

# The Midwife.

## RADIANT MOTHERHOOD.

It is a most incomprehensible fact that probably the majority of young people embark upon married life in ignorance of the physiological phenomena with which they will be confronted. While there is much accurate and scientific information available in books written by medical practitioners concerning deviations from the normal during pregnancy, very little information is available for those in normal health, who wish to understand the physical signs which unfold themselves during the nine months preceding childbirth.

To such "Radiant Motherhood," by Marie Stopes, D.Sc., Ph.D., published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Ltd., 24, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.2, price 6s. net, may be commended as an earnest attempt to deal with the subject. While we are not prepared to endorse everything in the book, there is very much to commend it, both in its effort to enlighten those to whom such enlightenment is a matter of supreme importance, and in its method of approaching the subject.

As its sub-title indicates, the book is not only for mothers. It is "A book for those who are creating the future," both fathers and mothers. It must be remembered that Dr. Stopes is not a Doctor of Medicine, but of Science and of Philosophy, proof that her mental calibre is of no mean order.

The book is based on the assumption that every lover desires a child. "The supreme love of true mates always carries with it the yearning to perpetuate the exquisite quality of its own being, and to record, through the glory of its mutual creation, other lives yet more beautiful and perfect."

But "the price of every beauty in this world is in proportion to its quality," and the price exacted by Nature for the child of loving and sensitive people is correspondingly heavy."

So the book deals with "The Gateway of Pain," with the Young Mother-to-be; her amazements, her delights, and her distresses. Thus of her delights we read "the secret, sacred wonder of the process of which she is the active centre, casts its spell of magic and delight around the willing mother. 'A Garden enclosed is my Beloved,' and she feels within her own existence the mystic sense of divine beauty, which one feels in another form in a walled garden in the summer twilight."

The amazements, delights and distresses of the young father-to-be are similarly dealt with. The physical difficulties of the expectant mother—those which are nature-imposed, those entirely artificial, and those which knowledge and a better mode of life may entirely conquer.

"The procession of the months," "pre-natal influence," and "baby's rights" are also chapters of great interest. The book will help mothers

and fathers to understand themselves, each other and their children, and has therefore a useful mission.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

### APPLICATIONS.

At its last meeting the Board decided to grant the following applications:—

1. *For Approval as Lecturer.*—Peter Kevin Bryne, M.D.; Mabel Rose, B.Ch.L.M.; George William Harvey Bird, M.B.; Grace Haxton Dundas, L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.I.; Kathleen Field, M.B.; Horace Lance Flint, M.D.

2. *For Approval as Teacher.*—(Medical practitioners): Joseph Albert Sacco, M.B.; Cecil Heygate Vernon, M.B. (*Pro hac vice.*)

(Midwives).—Amy Kate Baughurst (No. 35,590), Alice Alma Brown (No. 4,005), Muriel Florence Cranfield (No. 38,551), Annie Davies (No. 27,938), Sarah Emma Davies (No. 39,334), Dorothy Lyal Lowe (No. 39,062), Gertrude Mitchell (No. 31,753), Lily Byatt Riches (No. 38,367), Florence Lizzie Maud Surry (No. 22,078), Sarah Wetherell (No. 48,196), Catherine Agnes Macdonald (No. 30,669).

(Subject to extra work being provided).—Frances Emily Eager (No. 51,573), Maud Elizabeth Roberts (No. 49,412). (For four pupils at a time).—Ada Stacey (No. 45,042). (For one pupil at a time).—Lilian Sarah Hodges (No. 47,265).

3. *For Restoration to the Roll of Members.*—Alice Conway (late No. 16,361).

### EXAMINATION PAPER.

November 2nd, 1920.

1. Describe the normal non-pregnant uterus, its position and blood supply. Also describe the more important changes that it undergoes when pregnant.

2. Describe in detail the management of the third stage of labour.

3. How do you recognise syphilis in the pregnant woman? What are the dangers in such a case to yourself, the mother and the unborn child? What are your duties under these circumstances?

4. How do you know that the breast milk is sufficient for the baby in quality and quantity? What would you do if the secretion were excessive or insufficient?

5. What would make you suspect cancer of the womb? What directions would you give to the patient?

6. Describe the complete examination which you would make in the case of a woman in advanced pregnancy. Give your reasons.

A children's exhibition and toy fair will be held at Devonshire House from November 22nd to November 27th, in aid of "Sunshine House," the Blind Babies' Home of the National Institute for the Blind.

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