

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

PENAL CASES.

A special meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, when 13 midwives were cited to answer charges preferred against them with the following results.

Struck off the Roll and Certificates cancelled:— Eleanor Barkas (No. 19,507), Eliza Jane Carpenter (No. 47,141), Lily Edmondson (No. 45,149), Alice Mary Gardner (No. 13,317), Rosa Hellings (No. 17,945), Florence Maud Johnson (No. 14,996), Harriet Lomas (No. 3,429), Florence Elizabeth Skinner (No. 47,402), Harriet Smith (No. 17,367), Alice Swingle (No. 4,801), and Catherine Tyreman (No. 2131).

Judgment deferred. Reports to be asked for from Local Supervising Authority in 3 and 6 months' time:— Harriet Healey (No. 1,956) Margaret Hunter (No. 30,812).

MONTHLY MEETING.

We regret we are compelled to hold over our report of the monthly meeting till next week.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

LIST OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

The examination of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland was held on November 1st and 2nd. One hundred and thirty-eight candidates were successful in passing the examination at the following centres: Edinburgh, 39; Glasgow, 75; Dundee, 15, and Aberdeen, 9. Of these 50 were trained at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, 23 at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, 20 at the Cottage Nurses' Training Home, Govan; 13 at the Maternity Hospital, Dundee; 7 by Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, Edinburgh; 6 at the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen; and 19 at other recognised institutions.

PENAL CASES.

At a meeting of the above Board for the hearing of Penal Cases, Sir J. Halliday Croom in the chair, charges were heard against Annie Maria Quillan (No. 1015) and Mary Espener (No. 2528) for breaches of the rules.

The Board found the charges proved, and instructed the Secretary to remove their names from the Roll of Midwives, and cancel their certificates.

A beautiful reredos of Carrara marble has been erected in the Allen Memorial Chapel at the Bristol Maternity Hospital, Southwell Street, Kingsdown, in memory of Mrs. Goodeve, President of the Hospital for some years. The chapel itself was her gift in memory of her nephew.

TEACHERS' INSTRUCTION COURSE.

The inaugural meeting of the Midwifery Teachers' Instruction Course, organised under the authority of the Midwives' Institute, and held at the Royal Society of Arts, Adelphi, on November 23rd, attracted a large gathering of midwives, and promised well for the success of the week following. Miss Olive Haydon apologised to the nurses for giving them a strenuous week of not less than 20 hours' instruction, but she said that this was a condition of the Board of Education, which with the L.C.C., had given a grant of £65 towards the expenses. Miss Gibson, President of the Midwives' Institute, presided over the meeting.

Sir Francis Champneys' subject was the Aims of the Teachers Course from the standpoint of the Central Midwives Board. Speaking to teachers, he said that no person thoroughly knows a subject till he can teach it, and gave several valuable points to his listeners on the art of imparting knowledge. The knowledge of to-day would be quite insufficient a few years hence and therefore one should teach how to learn, which was the only way to keep pace with knowledge.

Dr. Menzies spoke from the standpoint of the Local Supervising Authority, and gave some interesting figures.

Midwives had this year attended in London at 44,600 births. He thought that if these figures were generally known, they would go far to remove the extraordinary ignorance of the public with regard to the work of midwives. Improved status could only be effected by public opinion. He called attention to the facilities now open to midwives as to obtaining medical aid, and said that in 1919, the L.C.C. had been called upon for no less than £4,268 for this purpose.

Dr. Macrory gave a very helpful address on the relations of the Inspectors to the Midwifery Teachers.

She said that if the midwife feared the inspector there was something wanting. She spoke of the desirability of the inspectors being medical women.

The inspector should look upon the Midwifery Teacher as her hostess, and on her part the teacher should take the lead in inviting inspection of her home, cupboards, books, etc.

She deplored the name inspector, and would welcome a title that would rather suggest a counsellor. The Inspector should not be the prophet of one particular method, as methods were bound to vary.

Miss Haydon proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, which was seconded by Miss Elsie Hall.

The course is continued throughout the week.

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