

The Midwife.

REPRESENTATION ON CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

In April next, the Central Midwives Board will be reconstituted and enlarged. Among the additional members are to be two certified midwives appointed by the Midwives Institute. The Council of the Institute has the power of appointment. The procedure to be adopted has, however, been chosen in order that all members of the Institute may have the opportunity of participating in it. Every member of the Institute and every Association affiliated to it can send in the names of two nominees, with their qualifications and any statements the candidates may wish to make. The Council will select its representatives from the nominations, and in their selection will take into account the number of nominations each candidate has received.

Nomination papers can be obtained from the Midwives Institute, or taken from *March Nursing Notes*.

LONDON FEDERATION OF INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The London Federation of Infant Welfare Centres, Room G, 92, Fleet Street, E.C.4, have framed a series of "Principles for Promoting Better Co-operation between Centres and Midwives" after consultation with the Incorporated Midwives Institute, and the Maternity Centres in London. These "principles" refer to (a) Midwives, and (b) Centres. Those referring to midwives are as follows:—

ANTE-NATAL.

1. Medical etiquette will always be observed in dealing with both midwives' and doctors' cases. All correspondence between the doctor and the midwife must be strictly confidential.

2. The general health of women in pregnancy is of such importance that it is desirable that each expectant mother should have an opportunity of being seen at least once during her pregnancy by a medical practitioner. The ante-natal clinics now established are centres to which midwives can bring or send any of their patients during pregnancy, especially those who, in their opinion, need medical advice, either for general ill-health or for the ailments of pregnancy.

3. A midwife, sending a patient, is asked to send with her a carefully closed note stating any facts which the doctor should know. She will, in return, receive a report from the doctor.

4. Midwives are asked, wherever possible, to encourage all their patients (especially primiparae) to come up for dental examination, and to attend the needlework, hygiene and other classes at the Maternity Centres in their districts.

POST-NATAL.

1. In cases where there is any doubt as to the adequacy of the breast feeding by the mother, expert medical advice should be sought before having resort to any artificial method of feeding for the infant.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The 85th examination of the Central Midwives Board was held on February 1st in London, Birmingham, Leeds and Liverpool, with the following results:—

Candidates examined, 796; Passed, 635; Percentage of failure, 20.2.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR IRELAND.

The Central Midwives Board for Ireland held a meeting at the Office of the Minister of Health, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on Thursday, February 24th.

There were present: Sir E. Coey Bigger (in the chair); Sir A. J. Horne; Sir W. J. Smyly; Charles G. Lowry, M.B.; Miss J. H. Kelly; Miss Michie; and Professor Corby.

The Chairman referred in feeling terms to the death since their last meeting of one of their members—Alderman Capt. J. C. McWalter, M.D. He proposed a resolution expressing the sense of the loss which the Board has sustained, and conveying to Mrs. McWalter and family the Board's deep sympathy with them in their sad bereavement.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Secretary reported that, at the examination held in Dublin, Belfast and Cork simultaneously, on the 8th and 9th inst., 68 candidates presented themselves, of whom 61 passed and were granted certificates. The total number on the Midwives Roll of Ireland is now 2,902.

The Board, after transacting some other routine business, adjourned.

A Special Meeting of the Board was subsequently held to consider charges preferred against one of the Midwives on the Roll—Mrs. Cassidy, Belfast. The charges included: Failure to secure medical attendance where necessary; failure to hand the necessary form to the husband; and failure to keep a correct record of the patient's temperature.

The Board, after hearing the evidence in support of the charges, and considering a statement furnished by the accused, decided that her name should be removed from the Midwives Roll, and the Secretary was instructed to inform her accordingly.

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