

The Midwife.

CLEAN MILK.

We are glad to learn that the Government has undertaken to introduce a Milk Amendment Bill into Parliament which will provide (1) For issuing revocable licences to Milk Sellers, and (2) For the continuation and expansion of the system of grading milk already introduced by the Food Controller.

There is urgent need both for the supervision of the quality, and the cleanliness of the milk supply, and it is important that Local Authorities should have power to revoke and suspend licences if the premises of vendors are insanitary or the methods of handling milk unsatisfactory. The health of invalids and of many infants is dependant upon a pure milk supply, and they may be starved, if the quality is poor, or poisoned if it is impure. We are therefore glad to know that the Government are moving in this matter, and hope that the Bill will speedily be passed into law.

These powers, with those of the Milk and Dairies' Act, which will be brought into operation when the Amending Bill becomes law, will presumably be exercisable through Milk and Dairies Orders to be made by the Ministry of Health, and administered by Local Authorities.

HOW TO KILL DISGUSTING BACTERIA.

"If the milk we drink were transparent it would be too horrible to look at," Dr. Janet Lane-Clayton assured an audience of school teachers at King's College, Strand, on Saturday.

"You would see that it was thick with disgusting bacteria," she said. "We allow milk to be produced under the most filthy conditions, and feed millions of babies on it."

She recommended placing milk for babies in glass bottles, which should be put in a pot of cold water brought to the boil and kept at boiling point for two minutes. The bottles should then be cooled off in cold water.

ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives will be held, by the kind permission of Mrs. George Booth, at the New House, Airlie Gardens, Campden Hill, on Thursday, March 17th, at 3 p.m. The chair will be taken by Lieut.-Col. F. E. Freemantle, M.P., and amongst the speakers will be Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S. This Association has done very good spade-work in its time in arousing public interest in the necessity for better taught and more midwives throughout the country.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

MIDWIVES ACTS COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of the London County Council on March 8th, the General Purposes Committee (No. 1) reported that it devolved upon them to submit recommendations as to the appointment and constitution of committees. They recommended "That the Midwives Acts Committee do consist of five members of the Council, and of women not exceeding three in number appointed by the Council, as follows: *Members of the Council*: Brigadier-General R. J. Cooper, L. Courtauld, L. Haden Guest, Mrs. Wilton Phipps, H. de R. Walker. *Members appointed by the Council under Section 8 of the Midwives Act, 1902*: Miss A. S. Gregory, Mrs. May Harmer, Dr. Annie McCall."

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR IRELAND.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following is the examination paper set by the Central Midwives Board for Ireland at the examination held simultaneously in Dublin, Belfast and Cork, on February 8th:—

1. Describe the third stage of labour and its management.
2. Describe in detail how you would pass a catheter on a lying-in woman. What harm may be done by neglect of the necessary precaution?
3. Mention any three antiseptics in common use in midwifery, giving the purpose for which used, the strength, and the advantages and disadvantages of each.
4. Describe in detail the management of a premature child during the first week.
5. What are the warning symptoms of eclampsia? How would you treat a woman with eclamptic fits, pending the arrival of the doctor?
6. What are the causes of *post partum hæmorrhage*? How would you deal with it pending doctor's arrival.

The Guardianship of Infants Bill was introduced by Colonel Greig into the House of Commons last week. Its purpose is to give to the mother of a child the same authority, rights, and responsibility as now belong to the father.

Dr. W. E. Robinson describes the cry of a syphilitic infant as a constant, weak, persistent bleating, quite unlike the loud, angry cry of a hungry infant, or the shrieking of one in pain.

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