

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following is the Examination Paper set by the Central Midwives Board on August 3rd:—

1. Describe in detail the abdominal examination of a woman advanced in pregnancy.

What information do you endeavour to obtain from such examination?

2. How would you recognise the symptoms of exhaustion during labour in the order in which they commonly arise?

What are the usual causes?

3. Severe bleeding occurs after the birth of a child and before the placenta has left the uterus. Describe in detail how you would treat such a case.

4. What difficulties may arise in connection with breast feeding? How can they be overcome?

(Reference to artificial feeding is not required.)

5. Describe the normal lochia during the first ten days.

What abnormal changes may occur in this discharge?

6. What precaution should you take in nursing, during the puerperium, a woman who is suffering from (a) Gonorrhoea, (b) Syphilis?

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

The Examination of the Board on August 1st and 2nd, held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen, has just concluded with the following results:—

Out of 106 candidates who appeared for the Examination, 92 passed. Of the successful candidates, 28 were trained at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow; 23 at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh; 4 at the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen; 12 at the Maternity Hospital, Dundee; 5 at the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, Edinburgh; 10 at the Cottage Nurses' Training Home, Govan, Glasgow; and the remainder at various recognised institutions.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

1. Define or explain briefly the following terms: Decidua, Conjugate, Vertex, Fontanelle.

2. What advice would you give to an expectant mother regarding (a) The probable date of her confinement, (b) the care of the breasts, (c) her duties regarding the infant.

3. Describe the method of conducting a twin labour.

4. Give the causes, symptoms, and treatment of White Leg. What complications may arise after the acute stage has passed off?

5. What conditions in the mouth of the infant

are met with giving rise to (a) difficulties in feeding, and to (b) disorders of digestion?

6. What articles is a midwife bound by the Rules of the Central Midwives Board to carry in her bag, and for what purposes are they used?

VERSES.

Children, you are very little,
And your bones are very brittle,
If you would grow great and stately
You must try to walk sedately.

You must still be bright and quiet,
And content with simple diet,
And remain, through all bewildering,
Innocent and honest children.

Happy hearts and happy faces,
Happy play in grassy places—
That was how, in ancient ages,
Children grew to kings and sages.

But the unkind and the unruly,
And the sort who eat unduly
They must never hope for glory—
Theirs is quite a different story!

Cruel children, crying babies
All grow up as geese and gabies,
Hated, as their age increases,
By their nephews and their nieces.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

TRAINING OF MIDWIVES.

The following letter (published in the *South African Nursing Record*) has been sent to all the Medical Councils in South Africa:—

P.O. Box 1050, Johannesburg,

11th June, 1921.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to call your attention to the following resolution which has been passed by a meeting of the Central Board of my Association:

"That the minimum period of training for midwifery in respect of untrained women be one year and for certificated general nurses six months."

We feel sure that your Council will agree that a very high standard of efficiency is necessary in responsible work like midwifery, and the feeling of my Association, especially those members of it who hold both certificates, and those who are training midwives, is that the above are the minimum periods in which an efficient midwife can be trained. The certificated nurses would gladly submit to a six months' course, and we trust that your Council will give the matter serious attention, and at least express an opinion, even if, in view of the advent of the Medical Bill they are not prepared to take definite action.

Yours faithfully,

B. G. ALEXANDER,

General Secretary Trained Nurses' Association.

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