

The Midwife.

CHOREA GRAVIDARUM.

The *Lancet* reports an interesting meeting of the Midland Obstetrical and Gynæcological Society, held at the King Edward VII Hospital, Cardiff, when the President, Professor Ewen Maclean, who was in the chair, read a short communication on the above subject and described three cases which conformed to the type of ordinary, or Sydenham's, chorea, as distinguished from the far more grave Huntingdon's chorea.

"Prof. Maclean said that as regards ætiology, it was generally held that these cases were a form of true chorea, and not a manifestation of toxæmia. This view was supported by the frequency of a rheumatic history, evidence of endocarditis in a large proportion of cases, and the detailed resemblance to Sydenham's chorea, whilst in most cases other evidences of toxæmia, such as albuminuria and severe vomiting were absent. The incidence of the disease was commonest in primigravidæ, though it might recur in subsequent pregnancies, and the onset was more frequent in the earlier months of pregnancy. Milder types tended to recover under treatment, rarely, if ever, developed mental symptoms, and only exceptionally miscarried. The severe types were frequently associated with abortion.

As regards treatment, mild cases responded to rest and dieting associated with arsenic or bromide as the symptoms indicated. In severe cases the prognosis, immediate and remote, was bad; treatment, as a rule, was ineffective, and the induction of abortion or premature labour, before the signs of exhaustion became established, appeared to be the best line of treatment to adopt."

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL.

At the recent meeting of the Central Midwives Board the following applications were approved:—

As Lecturer.—Dr. Arthur Eaton Bodrington.

As Teacher.—Midwives Annie Elizabeth Craven (No. 6775), Ada Victoria Eaton (No. 43706), Dorothy Alice Jones (No. 49275), Beatrice Lily Hussell Mogridge (No. 28,803), Jane Ward (No. 27652), and Helen Springfield (No. 50571), subject to conditions.

ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS BY MIDWIVES.

The Board approved a statement prepared by the members of the deputation to the Ministry of Health with reference to the administration of drugs, and arranged to send it to Local Supervisory Authorities and other bodies who have made representations to the Board.

It considered it inadvisable to suggest to teachers and midwives the drugs which it thinks should be used by midwives in various emergencies.

ADVERTISING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF MIDWIVES.

A letter was considered from the County Medical Officer of Health for Derbyshire drawing the attention of the Board to the system of advertising through the medium of midwives which is being adopted by Messrs. Nestlé, Ltd., and enquiring whether the Board would regard as unprofessional the distribution by midwives of such circulars as Messrs. Nestlé, Ltd., desire to be circulated.

It was decided that Messrs. Nestlé, Ltd., be informed that the Board cannot approve of midwives acting as agents for advertising any form of food; that a midwife acting thus renders herself liable to proceedings before the Board, and that it trusts Messrs. Nestlé, Ltd., not to tempt midwives to act in a manner derogatory to their position.

We think the decision of the Board is the correct one. No professional person should push any particular commodity, the public can be acquainted with its merits through advertisements in the Press in the ordinary way.

POST-GRADUATE WEEK FOR MIDWIVES.

The tenth annual Post-Graduate Week for Midwives will be held at the General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, Lambeth, London, S.E.1, from May 22 to 26 inclusive.

Monday, May 22nd., 4 p.m. Reception by Matron and Staff. Tea. 5 p.m., Inaugural Lecture by Dr. J. S. Fairbairn, "The Influence of William Smellie on British Midwifery."

Tuesday, May 23rd., 11 a.m. Clinic in the wards by the house physician. 12 noon, Milk kitchen: Preparation of artificial feeds. 2 p.m., Meet at the Hospital: Visits to York Road Infants' Clinic or Queen Charlotte's Hospital or Glaxo Factory. 6 p.m., Lecture by Mr. Richardson, "Recent Research into the Toxæmias of Pregnancy."

Wednesday, May 24th., 11 a.m., Clinic in the wards conducted by the Ward Sisters. 2 p.m., Clinical lecture by Dr. G. F. Stebbing at Lambeth Infirmary. 6 p.m., Lecture by Miss Liddiard, "Management of Cases in which Lactation is Difficult to Establish."

Thursday, May 25th., 11 a.m., Mr. Richardson's clinic for pupil midwives. 2 p.m., City Road Maternity Hospital or Glaxo Factory or 3 p.m., Dr. Eric Pritchard's clinic. 6 p.m., Lecture by Dr. Eric Pritchard (by invitation of Dr. Pritchard). One of a course to medical post-graduates. Lectures to pupil midwives by Dr. J. P. Hedley.

Friday, May 26th., 11 a.m., Clinic by the House Physician. 3 p.m., Lecture by Professor Louise McIlroy, "Antenatal Care." 5.30 p.m. Test Paper (optional). 7.30 p.m., Lecture at the Midwives' Institute (tickets 6d. each). Subject to be announced later.

Antenatal clinic daily 9 a.m. (Numbers limited).

Subscription for course, 5s. (Payable in advance).

Those who wish to join should send their names as soon as possible to K. V. Coni (Sister), Hon. Secretary.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)