

## The Midwife.

### CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

A meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Thursday, November 16th, Sir Francis Champneys presiding.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

A letter was received from Miss Puxley of the Ministry of Health stating that the Home Office had been consulted with reference to the question of exempting practising midwives from liability to Jury Service, and that, although it is not likely that there will be any prospect of immediate legislation on the subject, the Home Office has noted the case of midwives for consideration when the time is more favourable.

The Secretary having reported that he had thanked the Ministry of Health for the steps which it had taken, his letter was approved.

A letter was received from the Honorary Secretary of the Macalpine Maternity Home, Manchester, forwarding a copy of the following Resolution:—

"The Committee of the above Home desires to urge upon the Central Midwives' Board its conviction of the need for a longer and more adequate training for midwives. It asks the Board to give immediate attention to this matter, and urges them before any change is made to make careful investigations into the methods and scope of training in other countries and into the needs of all classes of Institutions employing midwives."

It was agreed that the Secretary of the Macalpine Home be informed that the Board has already under consideration the question of lengthening the period of training.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland asking for the opinion of the Board as to whether the Local Supervising Authority in whose area a midwife actually resides and usually practises should be responsible for the inspection of such midwife in respect of any emergency cases taken in the area of an adjacent Authority.

It was agreed that the Secretary of the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland be informed that in the opinion of the Board it may be a matter of extreme difficulty for a Local Supervising Authority to inspect satisfactorily in respect of cases taken in the area of another Local Supervising Authority, as the Local Supervising Authority of the area in which the cases are taken is likely to have the better knowledge of them. The Board thinks, however, that the matter might be satisfactorily adjusted if the Local Supervising Authorities concerned were to come to a working

arrangement on the subject as is done with good results in many areas in England, as, for instance, the Counties of London and Middlesex and in other adjacent areas.

### CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

The examination of the Board, held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen, concluded on 8th inst., with the following results:—

Out of 116 candidates who appeared for the Examination 99 passed. Of the successful candidates 21 were trained at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, 37 at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, 3 at the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen, 11 at the Maternity Hospital, Dundee, 7 at the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, Edinburgh, 11 at the Cottage Nurses' Training Home, Govan, Glasgow, and the remainder at various recognised Institutions.

#### EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following are the questions set in the recent examination:—

1. Describe shortly the internal organs of generation, giving the anatomical position of each and the function of each.
2. What instructions would you give to a patient, pregnant for the first time, who engages you for her confinement five months hence?
3. How would you recognise prolapse of the umbilical cord, and how would you treat it?
4. How would you examine the placenta and membranes after labour, and why? Mention the complications in pregnancy, labour, and the puerperium arising in connection with the placenta, membranes, and umbilical cord.
5. Give in detail the points to which you would attend in supervising the feeding of a breast-fed baby. Describe briefly the disorders from which such an infant may suffer, and give the remedies.
6. What are the directions of the Central Midwives Board with regard to the prevention of inflammation of the eyes in new-born children?

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

*December 2nd.*—How would you feed an infant of a week old and upwards for nine months if a medical practitioner has decided that breast-feeding is impossible?

*December 9th.*—What complications are to be feared in an attack of acute influenza? What precautions should be taken to avert them if possible?

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