

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

At the June Examination of the Central Midwives' Board 627 candidates were examined and 495 passed the examiner. The percentage of failures was 21.1.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

At a meeting of the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland for the Hearing of Penal Cases, Dr. James Haig Ferguson in the chair, Mrs. Sarah Thomson Arbuckle (No. 2085) and Mrs. Mary Marshall Muirhead (No. 2493) were found guilty of negligence and breaches of the Rules.

The Board instructed the Secretary to remove both names, and issued an Order that these women be prohibited from attending women in childbirth in any other capacity.

At the same diet the Board found charges of failure to notify two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, and of other breaches of the Rules proved against Mrs. Hannah M. McGinley (No. 460). Sentence was postponed for three months to give her the opportunity of amendment, the Board stating that in the event of an unfavourable report being received from the Local Supervisory Authority, her name would be forthwith removed from the Roll.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR IRELAND.

The Tenth Examination of the Central Midwives' Board for Ireland was held simultaneously in Dublin and Cork on June 19th and 20th, 1923. Fifty-five candidates entered in Dublin and nine in Cork. Of the 64 candidates one did not attend, five failed and 58 passed satisfactorily.

The successful candidates received their training in the following schools, Dublin: The Rotunda Hospital, the Coombe Hospital, the National Maternity Hospital; Cork: the Cork Lying-in Hospital, the Cork Maternity Hospital.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

1. What signs and symptoms during the puerperium would suggest serious complications?
2. What are the causes of diarrhoea, (a) in a breast-fed infant, (b) in a bottle-fed infant, and how would you treat it?
3. What instructions would you give a patient as to the management of her breasts before delivery? Why is this important?
4. What is meant by the following terms:—Accidental Hæmorrhage; Unavoidable Hæmorrhage; Presentation of the Cord; Hydramnios?
5. Give the varieties of cephalic (head) presentation and their diagnosis.
6. When is it *not* advisable for a mother to breast-feed her infant? What directions would

you give her to prepare a milk mixture for her infant two months old? What is the regulation of the Central Midwives' Board as regards the substitution of artificial feeding for breast-feeding?

THE L.C.C. AND THE RULES OF THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The Chairman of the London County Council, acting on behalf of the Council under standing order No. 176, decided on May 21st, 1923, on the recommendation of the Midwives Act Committee, that representations should be made to the Central Midwives Board to the effect that, in connection with an impending revision of the Rules of the Board, such portions of the volume of Rules and appendices as bear upon the practice of midwives should be issued separately for the use of practising midwives, and that certain amendments in technical matters should be made in the Rules.

THE LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE MIDWIVES' ASSOCIATION.

Members of the Leicester and Leicestershire Midwives' Association, of which the President is Miss E. Pell Smith, recently visited the Swithland Convalescent Home, by invitation of the Matron, Miss Florence M. Embry. After tea they had their business meeting, and then Miss Embry told them a little of the work carried on at the Home. They were very pleased with the Home and grounds, and realise better now how it can help their patients.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

The Minister of Health addressed the opening meeting of the National Baby Week Council, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Monday last, and said that, in his opinion, the urgent needs of the day were an increase in the number of welfare centres and health visitors, and further provision for reducing maternal and early infant mortality. The unwillingness of mothers to go into maternity hospitals, due largely to the fact that they did not wish to go far away from their homes, pointed to the desirability of establishing a large number of small homes rather than a few large hospitals, and that was the attitude the Ministry had taken up. He emphasised the need for better training and an improved scale of salaries for midwives, particularly in rural districts.

Dr. Louise McLroy expressed the opinion that the whole problem of infant mortality lay largely in taking ante-natal precautions.

Dr. Williams (Medical Officer of Health, Todmorden) said that we were paying for the slipshod methods of the present in babies' lives. "You could only get healthy babies for money."

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