

# The Midwife.

## THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

### EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following are the questions set in the February Examination:—

1. Describe the umbilical cord. What great variations in its length are of practical importance? For what reasons? What complications in connection with the cord may arise during labour?

2. Mention any three of the important conditions which may arise during pregnancy and which, according to the Rules of the Board, require you to send for Medical assistance. What Forms would you have to fill up? What dangers may arise from the three conditions you have mentioned?

3. How would you recognise during labour in a vertex presentation that the occiput is posterior? Explain why difficulties often arise in such a case.

4. Mention the common causes of "cracked" nipples. How can this complication be prevented? How do you treat it?

5. A baby, a week old, cries. How would you ascertain the cause? How would you act?

6. A woman, after delivery, has incontinence of urine. Explain the causes of this occurrence. What steps can you take to lessen the discomfort of the patient?

### TALKS ON MOTHERCRAFT.

The demand for lectures on Health and reliable talks on Mothercraft, is evidenced by the number of lectures Miss J. B. N. Paterson has been asked to give this autumn and winter. More and more are the New Zealand results obtained by Sir Frederick Truby King, C.M.G., being studied and adopted. "The fundamental needs of mother and child vary very little between the Tropics and the Poles," but these needs require to be studied and supplied. It is now generally recognised that the food required for a normal child cannot be reckoned by its age alone; some babies weigh more at birth than others consequently require more food. For years the words "Humanised Milk" have been connected with the New Zealand work, and though there are a few still who feed infants on whole cow's milk—intended for the calf—even the trade is now offering to supply dried, humanised milk.

### CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

At the meeting of the Board held for the election of Office-Bearers (Dr. James Haig Ferguson in the Chair), Dr. Haig Ferguson was unanimously re-elected Chairman. Dr. Michael Dewar was re-elected Deputy-Chairman, and Sir Archibald Buchan-Hepburn, Bart., was re-elected Convener of the Finance Committee.

The meeting appointed other committees and examiners, and approved the last of recognised institutions, with the teachers attached thereto, for the training of midwifery nurses.

### THE EXAMINATION.

The Examination of the Board, held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen, has just concluded with the following results:—

Out of 123 candidates who appeared for the Examination 115 passed. Of the successful candidates 24 were trained at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, 34 at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, 6 at the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen, 11 at the Maternity Hospital, Dundee, 10 at the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, Edinburgh, 10 at the Cottage Nurses' Training Home, Govan, Glasgow, and the remainder at various recognised Institutions.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD—SAORSTAT EIREANN.

The Fifteenth Examination of the Central Midwives' Board—Saorstát Eireann—was held simultaneously in Dublin and Cork on February 10th, 11th and 12th, 1925.

Eighty candidates entered in Dublin and twenty in Cork. Of the 100 candidates—two did not attend—19 failed and 79 passed satisfactorily.

### BABY SHOWS.

*The Bulletin of the Association d'Hygiène Sociale de l'Aisne*, the thriving offspring of our old friend the *Comité Américain pour les Régions Dévastées de la France*, gives the following charming account of the Baby Shows organised under its auspices:—

We had 12 of them; they have all been successful and yet they have been varied in style. But if you are under the impression that a baby show is something to be taken lightly and thought in the least unimportant, then come to France and see what an official event it is the life of our little villages.

All of the babies who had obtained a certain percentage of attendance at the well baby clinic received a diploma. Most of the babies had magnificently decorated carriages; some of the villages gave their mothers and toddlers a little party; some of them had music to march to, but all of them enjoyed their fête and were very proud of their babies. Let me describe for you the last Show of the season.

### SCENE.

A little village buried in between two hills, every house of which is new because not a vestige of this village remained after the war; three hundred inhabitants, a beautiful day.

The village is of the type well known in France, composed of one street stretching for at least a mile. The rendezvous for departure of the procession was at one extreme end of the village. Here were gathered practically the entire population and not only that, but part of the population of a neighbouring village, in the person of its band.

The music proudly led the way. The Maire and the members of his municipal council together with the Doctor and the Nurse of the Association fell in behind. Then came the mothers with their decorated baby carriages and bringing up the rear the grandmothers and grandfathers and the rest of the relatives.

The parade was from one end of the village to the other and then back again to the decorated barrack, which was called "La salle des Fêtes." There everybody assembled; the mothers and babies and toddlers in the front row. They were addressed by the doctor who explained to them the value of the baby clinic and baby care, and then presented them with their diplomas. The Maire of the village, with all the members of his municipal council standing behind him, also addressed the mothers and told them that it was their duty to help the village to maintain the organisation that had been started by the American Committee. Between the speeches there was music by the band and very good music too, and after the speeches the jury judged the decorated baby carriages and the mothers and the musicians were offered refreshment by the village authorities.

Can you picture them, these mothers of devastated France who are beginning to come back to a normal life, and who are losing a little the careworn expression of war days?

And the health of the babies and indeed of all the children would repay anyone for long days of hard work if such repayment were necessary.

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