

The Midwife.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

The Minister of Health has approved the London County Council's proposals for the setting up of a domiciliary service of midwives in London. The scheme will come into operation on January 1st next, the earliest possible date.

The Hospitals and Medical Services Committee is taking steps to appoint the 42 whole-time salaried midwives to be engaged by the Council for the purposes of the scheme. In addition to the midwives to be appointed directly by the Council, a minimum of about 120 whole-time midwives will be employed by arrangement with upwards of 40 voluntary organisations.

When the new scheme comes into operation every London mother, irrespective of her financial circumstances, will be able to call on the services of a fully-qualified midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The Central Midwives Board met at the Board's offices, 23, Great Peter Street, Westminster, S.W.1, on October 7th. The Chairman, Sir Comyns Berkeley, M.D., F.R.C.S., presided.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee the following applications were approved

APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL AS LECTURER.

1. Richard Kenneth Bowes, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. (at the General Lying-in Hospital during the absence, through illness of Dr. D. W. Roy).
Lieut.-Col. John Cecil Alexander Dowse, M.C., M.B. (at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, as substitute lecturer to Major T. I. Dun).

APPLICATIONS OF STATE CERTIFIED MIDWIVES FOR APPROVAL AS TEACHER.

2. Alice Madeline Baldwin, No. 61056, City Maternity Hospital and London Road Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent (district).
Hannah May Cottingham, No. 86620, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital (intern).
Minnie Gatenby, No. 75133, West Middlesex County Hospital (intern).
Rose Adelaide Gladwin, No. 81591, St. Leonard's Hospital (intern).
Marjorie Jennison, No. 80959, Nottingham City Hospital (district).
Susan Gladys Jones, No. 57952, Swansea Municipal Maternity Home (district).
Kathleen Newman, No. 86196, Kingston and District Hospital (district).
Frances Probert, No. 53367, Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital (district).
Nora Margaret Parsons, No. 85455, Middlesex Hospital (intern and district).
Gertrude Mary Jennings, No. 71061, Alexandra Maternity Home, Devonport (intern).
Edith Mabel Evans, No. 83472, Dartford County Hospital (district).
Agnes Annie Barnes, No. 86508; Ethel Brier, No. 72603; Ethel Clarkson, No. 90504; Annie Elizabeth Dunlop, No. 73866; Elizabeth Margaret Titterton,

No. 75462, Municipal Hospitals Birmingham (district) (Temporarily).

Daisy Adeline Higgins, No. 65816, Lincoln City Maternity Home (intern and district). (Temporarily, during the absence of Miss Twiss, who is taking the residential course of instruction at the City of London Maternity Hospital in preparation for the Midwife-Teachers Examination.)

Barbara Ives, No. 80952, Wellhouse Hospital, Barnet (intern). (Temporarily, during the absence, through illness, of the approved teacher.)

Sarah Ann Blenkharn, No. 27029, Derby City Hospital (intern). (Temporarily, until the vacancy caused by the resignation of the previous approved teacher is filled)

Eliza Philpott, No. 29026; Eva Arria Savage, No. 70687, Chesterfield Municipal Maternity Home (district). (Temporarily).

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS EXAMINER.

3. John Barnard Blaikley, F.R.C.S., M.B., B.S., M.C.O.G.

4. The Committee considered a letter from the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Stoke-on-Trent, regarding the practice of midwives in his area who are in the habit of notifying births to a particular insurance society and receiving payment for same, and enquiring whether there is any rule forbidding midwives from carrying on this practice.

On the recommendation of the Standing Committee the Board agreed:

That the Medical Officer of Health for Stoke-on-Trent be informed that although the Rules of the Board do not specifically forbid midwives to notify births to an insurance society, the Board is of the opinion that midwives should aim at a standard of conduct which increases rather than diminishes the dignity of their profession and that from this point of view the practice of midwives notifying births to an insurance society is to be deprecated.

5. The Committee considered applications for the approval of the following institutions for the purpose of providing instruction in the essentials of obstetric analgesia and in the use of a recognised apparatus:—

- British Hospital for Mothers and Babies.
- Nightingale Home, Derby.
- "Sorrento" City Maternity Home, Birmingham.
- Thorpe Coombe Maternity Home.
- Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.
- Walton Hospital, Liverpool.

The applications on the recommendation of the Committee were granted.

6. The Committee considered a report from the Secretary regarding the regulations for the Midwife-Teachers Examination.

The Board agreed to the recommendations of the Committee:

That the existing regulations which the Board decided should apply to the Examinations to be held in 1936 to 1938 inclusive should be continued for the year 1939.

7. The Secretary reported that he had placed on the Roll the names of 39 women holding the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, the Joint Nursing and Midwives Council for Northern Ireland, the Central Midwives Board for the Irish Free State or the Nurses' Registration Board for New South Wales, as the case might be.

8. The Secretary reported that since the last Meeting of the Board he had removed the names of 350 midwives

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