

# The Midwife.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

MIDWIFE-TEACHERS EXAMINATION,  
12th JUNE, 1939. 2 p.m.—5 p.m.

### Midwifery—Theory.

*Only five Questions are to be answered.*

1. Describe the anatomy of the pelvic floor.  
What changes take place in the pelvic floor during the progress of labour and why?
2. Describe the formation and functions of the Corpus Luteum.
3. Describe the mechanism of normal respiration and the changes which take place in the respiratory and circulatory systems of the child at birth.
4. Discuss the conditions which may cause a baby to die in the first hour of its life.
5. Give an explanation of each movement of the child during the mechanism of labour with :
  - (i) a normal anterior vertex,
  - (ii) a persistent occipito-posterior position of the vertex.
6. What do you consider the chief dangers to the mother and child in a breech delivery and how do you manage such a case in order to avoid these dangers?

MIDWIFE-TEACHERS EXAMINATION,  
13th JUNE, 1939. 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

### Midwifery—Teaching.

*Every candidate must attempt Question 1 and is advised to allow 1½ hours for this Question. Only three of the other four Questions are to be answered.*

1. Write a lecture on obstetric disproportion and the means available for recognizing it :
  - (i) during pregnancy,
  - (ii) during labour.
2. How would you explain to a class of pupil-midwives the causes of Icterus Neonatorum ?  
What would you tell them about its prevention and nursing treatment ?
3. Describe the structure of the capillaries.  
What would you tell your pupils to make them appreciate that this knowledge is of practical importance ?
4. How would you explain to a class of pupil-midwives the difference between a retraction and a contraction ring ?  
How is each formed, and in what circumstances ?
5. Discuss the methods for the establishment of satisfactory breast feeding.

MIDWIFE-TEACHERS EXAMINATION,  
14th JUNE, 1939. 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

### Hygiene and Public Health.

*Only five Questions are to be answered.*

1. Give a brief outline of the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939, and mention the facilities available for the treatment of women suffering from puerperal pyrexia.
2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of a municipal domiciliary midwifery service.
3. What instructions would you give to your pupils to enable them to advise a mother with regard to :
  - (i) National Health Insurance—Maternity Benefit Provision ;
  - (ii) The Legal Adoption of Children ;
  - (iii) Assistance available for necessitous cases ?
4. Describe briefly the obligations under the terms of the Children Act 1908, and Children and Young Persons Act 1932, of a person who undertakes for reward the nursing and maintenance of an infant.

5. In what respect is a midwife affected by the Dangerous Drugs Act 1920 and the "authority" granted under that Act to certified midwives, and what are her obligations thereunder ?

What advice is given by the Central Midwives Board as to the drugs which may properly be carried and administered by midwives ?

6. Explain the terms—birth rate, death rate, and infantile mortality rate.

How are they calculated in each instance ?

From what source does the medical officer of health obtain the necessary information ?

## REGISTER OF MATERNITY NURSES.

The Joint Council of Midwifery, upon which the British Medical Association is represented has presented to the Minister of Health a report upon the desirability of establishing a Register of Maternity Nurses. The report states that an investigation by the Joint Council reveals that there is a serious shortage of nursing staff in maternity hospitals and institutions in the majority of areas throughout England and Wales, and the Joint Council, believing that there are both practical and financial difficulties in the way of staffing these hospitals with fully qualified midwives, has made the following main proposals :—

(" This shortage is, of course, the result of the ill-advised new Midwives Act, certain provisions of which should be repealed).

"(1) That a Register of Maternity Nurses under the supervision of the Central Midwives Board should be established. The designation "Registered Maternity Nurse" should be granted to those nurses whose names are placed upon this Register, and entry to the Register is apparently to be restricted to State-registered nurses who have qualified for Part I of the Central Midwives Board course.

"(2) That maternity nursing should be prohibited by trained nurses without this qualification (except in certain emergencies to be laid down by the Central Midwives Board).

"(3) That the "pocket-money" allowance of £12 10s. per annum, which pupil midwives may receive from the hospitals in which they train without ranking as salary, should be increased, and that pupils in training should receive an adequate allowance without losing the Government grant at present available.

"(4) That the service of ward orderlies should be utilised in maternity hospitals in order to reduce the amount of domestic duties now allotted to pupils, and to assist in raising the status of the midwifery profession.

"The Council of the British Medical Association is in agreement with proposal 3 of the Joint Council and has so informed the Minister and the Joint Council. It is of opinion, however, that the other proposals need very careful consideration. It is not considered that the matter is one of extreme urgency, and the Council has therefore suggested to the Minister that the report should be placed before the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services, to which the Council would be glad of an opportunity to convey its views on the subject in due course."

It is amazing to us that such a question should be referred to the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services—a practically lay body with little qualification for expressing an expert opinion. This Committee has already done more mischief in the Nursing World than will be remedied for years—if ever !

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