

# The Midwife.

it seemed rather surprising that there was not broadcast a public call to prayer. We, a great Christian nation, seemed to forget the only really powerful aid, and did not call for it. . . . It seems the only way we can really help our men is to pray for them."

[Since receiving this letter the whole nation has united in prayer, upon the suggestion of the King.—ED.]

*Mrs. Emmie Wates writes:* "It is so kind of you to send me the fine picture so beautifully produced of 'A French Hero Salutes.' It has been placed in a frame where all can see and be inspired by it. What a truly noble face. Our hearts ache for these brave boys during these sad days, and thank you so much for your courageous words in the reprinted leaflet and for having sent it to me."

[To Mrs. Wates we owe a deep debt of gratitude for the lovely flowers she sends constantly to the British College of Nurses. The "French Hero" has shared her sweet lilies-of-the-valley.—ED.]

### We are All to Blame.

*Miss G.T. writes:* "I send my subscription for the B.J.N., as it is the one publication which inspires me with courage in these terrible days. It is no good thus late in the day blaming our politicians for their lack of determination and sense of responsibility; we are all to blame. Let each one of us search her own heart and conscience and ask herself 'What have I done to rouse my M.P. to a sense of public duty?' And I fear the answer will be Nothing! Why? Because I, too, lack patriotism. From now on, may I plead with my colleagues to at least take the trouble to know who her Member of Parliament is, and to urge upon him, or her, that silence and connivance in a policy of expediency is a betrayal of national trust."

[We beg to support this patriotic policy.—ED.]

### Auxiliary Nurses.

*Past Matron writes:* "I am anxious to work for the wounded, but regret that my experience of the Nursing as organized by the Civil Nursing Reserve makes it difficult. Discipline should be enforced and the Auxiliary Nurses set to tasks they are capable of performing. At present they shirk duties of juniors, and attempt to perform those of the trained nurse."

### A FRENCH HERO SALUTES.

The portrait on card of "A French Hero Salutes," which is of a most inspiring nature, can be obtained from the office, B.J.N., 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7., price 6d. if called for, 9d. if sent by post. We feel sure everyone who secures this portrait will have it simply framed and realise its elevating influence.

THE "BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING" AND THE "MIDWIFE" SUPPLEMENT, FOUNDED 1888, is the Official Organ of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain. The Official Supplement of the Royal British Nurses' Association is incorporated in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Price, 7s. annually, including postage. Apply, MANAGER, 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

### PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JULY.

Describe the nursing care of a marasmic baby: what may bring about such a degree of wasting?

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The First Examination was held on May 15th, 1940.

### The Questions.

1. Describe the anatomy of the pelvic floor. What physiological changes occur and what pathological changes may take place as a result of delivery? What can you do in an endeavour to prevent such pathological changes?
2. What questions should a midwife ask, what examination should she make, and what advice should she give when a patient engages her services?
3. A patient 15 minutes after the delivery of the placenta begins to bleed very considerably from the genital passage. Describe your investigation and treatment of the case.
4. A patient has a rise of temperature on the eighth day of the puerperium. Discuss the possible causes. How would you investigate the case?
5. Discuss the causes of, and detail the prevention and treatment of, rashes on parts of a child's body covered by the napkin.
6. What is ophthalmia neonatorum? How is the condition caused? How can it be prevented? What is the rule of the Central Midwives' Board governing its treatment?

### MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland issue the following announcement to midwives in England and Wales. It applies to all qualified midwives under 55 years of age who have done midwifery within the last 10 years and who are not at present in full time employment.

If you would be willing, if called upon, to accept a salaried residential post at short notice in a maternity home in a reception area in England or Wales you should at once get into touch with the Central Midwives Board, 73, Great Peter Street, Westminster, S.W.1 (Telephone No.: Abbey 2414).

Similar offers of service in Scotland should be made to the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, Royal College of Surgeons, 18, Nicholson Street, Edinburgh.

You should give the following particulars:—

Your full name and address and telephone number, if any.  
Your age and experience, saying whether you are a general trained nurse.

The number of your Central Midwives Board certificate.  
The counties in which you would be willing to work.  
The length of notice you would need before taking up duty.

Sir Arthur S. MacNalty, Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health, announces that the Ministry have had under discussion with the Ministry of Home Security the possibility of precipitate births occurring in Air Raid Shelters, and instructions have been drawn up in consultation with the Chairman of the Central Midwives Board, to be used at the discretion of the Medical Officers of Health of A.R.P. scheme-making Authorities.

It is hoped that it will not be necessary to retain a woman in labour in a shelter. The instructions issued to the Authorities are for use only where it is impossible to get a woman removed or to obtain professional assistance.

### A HUMAN MILK BUREAU.

A baby for which an S O S for human milk was broadcast died in Slough Emergency Hospital.

Within a few minutes of the S O S a consignment was on its way by car from the human milk bureau at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.

The baby weighed only 2 lb. 6 oz.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)