

Duties of a Midwife During An Air Raid.

A request was received for a ruling as to the duty of a midwife in the event of an air raid occurring, and official instruction to seek cover being given, while she was proceeding to a confinement to which she had been called. The Board took the view that the issue of such a ruling was impossible since the matter is essentially one which must be decided by each individual midwife in accordance with common sense and in the light of the particular circumstances of the time.

Use of Drugs by Midwives.

The Board was asked whether it was permissible for midwives to use a Michel clip for the repair of a slight superficial skin tear of scar tissue. The Board informed its inquirer that it regarded the repair of a torn perineum by a midwife as procedure outside her province, and that it could not agree to midwives being allowed to apply one or more Michel clips for such purpose.

Administration of Drugs.

The Board informed the Medical Officer of Health of a local supervising authority that having regard to the dangers associated with the administration of protoisil and its derivatives, the Board regard such administration by a midwife, otherwise than under the direction of a registered medical practitioner, as treatment outside her province.

The Report of the work of the Central Midwives Board is of very great interest, not only to midwives but to Registered Nurses and the public at large, and no doubt a copy would be obtainable upon request to the Secretary.

Office of the Board.

On September 2nd, 1939, the office of the Board was moved temporarily to the building of the Ministry of Health while structural work was undertaken in the Board's own premises. The Board is grateful to the Ministry for the assistance thus rendered.

On January 23rd, 1940, the office returned to its premises in Great Peter Street. As a result of action by the local authority in renaming streets, the street number of the building had been changed in the interval. The present address of the office is 73, Great Peter Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1, R.A. The final letters "R.A." are important and should not be omitted when addressing communications to the Board.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

Report of Standing Committee.

The Committee met on Thursday, October 3rd, 1940.

1. *Applications from Registered Medical Practitioners for approval as Lecturers to Pupil-midwives.*

The Committee recommends that the following applications be granted: Bessie Dodd, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G., Hull Municipal Maternity Home [Rule B.36 other than (v)]. J. L. D. Roberts, M.B., F.R.C.S., Mill Road Infirmary, Liverpool [Rule B.36 other than (v)]. H. T. Ashby, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.P. [Rule B.36 (m) and (n)]. A. F. C. Davey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. [Lectures on V.D.]. G. A. Renwick, M.B., Ch.B. [Lectures on O.N.], Withington Hospital, Manchester. S. Henderson, M.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G. [Rule B.36] (temporarily), Oldchurch Hospital, Romford.

2. *Applications from State Certified Midwives for approval as Teachers.*

The Committee recommends that the following applications be granted: Dorothy Eunice Stanley, No. 84822; Annie Hubbard, No. 64464; Nellie Kirk, No. 52312, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital [Second period—district]. Doris Catherine Lewin Johnston, No. 71066; Edna Annie Linton, No. 78375; Dorothy Middleton, No. 68438 (subject to certain conditions); Frances Mary

Partridge, No. 83280; Dora Kathleen Silcox, No. 70235; Louisa Walker, No. 94946, Bristol Training Scheme [Second period—district]. Ida Lessons, No. 93074, Wakefield City Maternity Home [Second period—district]. Elsie Pearson, No. 70648 [Derby City Hospital—intern]. Annie Holding, No. 73337 [City of Manchester and St. Mary's District Midwifery Association—intern]. Eliza Agate, No. 37433; Sarah Jane Clarke, No. 46757; Annie Cook, No. 49643; Martha Alice Cooper, No. 47551; Mary Ann Dickinson, No. 74429; Dorothy Mary Jordan, No. 100913; Catherine Mullen, No. 90840; Mary Slevin, No. 86321 [City of Manchester and St. Mary's District Midwifery Association, Second period—district]. Adelaide Ann Carrington, No. 103156; Doris May Jackson, No. 86828; Nellie Kirkham, No. 106032; Louisa Kathleen Moran, No. 86353 (temporarily) [Stoke-on-Trent City Maternity Hospital, second period—district]. Lucia Mary Wycherley, No. 86452 [Somerset County Nursing Association, second period—district]. Edith Lilian Brooks, No. 75022; Constance Maud Dunhill, No. 68869 [Lewisham (L.C.C.) Hospital, second period—district]. Sarah Allen, No. 54604 [Birkenhead Maternity Hospital, second period—district]. Margaret Pelbrough, No. 89363 [Middlesex (Bushey) County Hospital—intern]. Rosina Emma Burge, No. 84367 [Kingston County Hospital—intern] (temporarily).

3. The Committee considered an application for the approval of Newcastle General Hospital for the prescribed course of instruction in gas and air analgesia.

The Committee recommends

That the application be granted.

4. The Secretary reported that he had placed on the Roll the names of 13 women holding the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, and the Central Midwives Board, Eire, as the case may be.

5. The Secretary reported that since the last meeting of the Board he has removed the name of one woman from the Roll under section 5 (7) of the Midwives Act, 1936 (making the total number so removed 2,940).

Report on "Second Examination" No. 4. September, 1940.

The Secretary reports that 252 candidates gave notice of their intention to present themselves at the Second Examination held in September.

With the exception of one candidate, all were State Registered Nurses.

Of the 252 candidates who took the examination, 223 were successful.

A MESSAGE FOR TO-DAY.

We are a people yet.
Tho' all men else their nobler
dreams forget,
Confused by brainless mobs and
lawless Powers;
Thank Him Who isled us here,
and roughly set
His Briton in blown seas and
storming showers,
We have a voice with which to
pay the debt
Of boundless love and reverence
and regret
To those great men who fought
and kept it ours.
And keep it ours, O God, from
brute control;
O Statesmen guard us, guard the
eye, the soul
Of Europe, keep our noble
England whole.

TENNYSON.

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