

# The Midwife.

## NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF CHINA.

Nanking, China.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—

We have only received three copies of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING this year—January, February, and April—and we cannot keep house without it. Can you please supply the missing copies to us, for we have them all bound for the National Library, you know? Thanks.

We keep well, and busy, and happy, caring for the things pertaining to nurses and the care of the sick and the health of the people and find our hands are full, as we know yours, are as well.

We will look forward to the next I.C.N., when we will have the pleasure of meeting all our friends again.

God bless you and keep you. Does our Journal reach you? It is sent regularly. With kind wishes and thanks.

Faithfully, CORA E. SIMPSON.

[The B.J.N. has been posted regularly every month during the past year to Miss Cora Simpson, but posts are very irregular in many parts of the world. Second copies have now been sent, so let us hope they will be delivered. Our kindest good wishes go with them. We greatly appreciate that they are bound and available for reference. We receive the official organ of the N.A.C. from time to time only and greatly appreciate the information of nursing progress in China which it contains.—ED.]

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Member B.C.N. writes: "I cannot express my intense grief to learn of the demolition of 39, Portland Place. What happy hours I have spent in its beautiful environment. It was always so refreshing after life spent in an institution, where, of course, 'Adam' art is impossible. I was present at the Reception to the I.C.N. in 1937—and proud to be a hostess to the leading nurses of the world. How happy we all were!—and how ignorant the majority of the ceaseless and feverish organisation in Berlin for the destruction of our country. Deep down I feel an accusing conscience; we enfranchised women have no right to be so ignorant of our political responsibilities. Every time I hear an Alert, and later a bomb fall, somehow it seems to shriek 'Serves you Right.'"

## Food Chat.

Miss Emily Green writes: "I see my sister's B.J.N. and like many other women am heartily tired of 'food chat.' But I would remind your correspondent who wishes to exist on tabloid food, and thus remove temptation from bandits who steal countries for the sake of food, that unless we are content to revert to the habits and customs of the ancient Britons and revert to woad, we need clothes, and land provides them as well as food. Both clothes and food give those of us with keen sensibilities constant gratification. I love a dainty meal and a charming frock, so no tabloids for me."

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## PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JANUARY, 1941

What is Surgical Shock? State some of the commoner injuries after which it may occur. How is it treated?

## THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARDS.

The Central Midwives Boards for England and Wales, and for Scotland, are to be congratulated that their special duties are without doubt of great national value. What of the welfare of expectant mothers and the sanitary and safe delivery of their babes? Surely no work can be of greater importance for the future safety and well-being of our people—and our national security.

To be born healthy is a gift beyond rubies, and the Midwives Boards have contributed during the past year work of the greatest value. We hope every pint of milk that can be spared will be secured for mothers and children should any shortage accrue.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

### FIRST EXAMINATION QUESTIONS HELD ON NOVEMBER 14th, 1940.

Candidates are advised to answer all the questions.

1. Describe the muscles of the uterus. What part do they play in labour?
2. Describe a suitable diet for a woman during pregnancy, giving reasons for the inclusion of the items of food and liquid which you mention.
3. How would you conduct a twin labour? What complications may arise?
4. What precautions can a midwife advise her patient to take during pregnancy and after delivery to prevent complications arising in the nipples and breasts?
5. In what circumstances may foetal distress occur? How would you diagnose it?
6. What are the duties of a Local Supervising Authority in relation to midwives and a midwife's duties in relation to such an authority?

## LEST WE FORGET.

By HILDA M. TREVELYAN-THOMSON.

They are with God, the ones who made our world,  
Our sun and moon and stars—our heart's desire.  
In the night's stormy darkness Fury struck  
Her chosen foe . . . defenceless innocence.  
The heinous crimes of nightmare yesterdays  
Pale before this . . . the Devil's handiwork.

SO BE IT. From this moment to the end,  
With concentrated purpose, wrath so deep  
There are no words that can be found for it,  
We pledge ourselves, if we have fought before,  
To fight with still more superhuman strength.  
If we have worked, so that there seems no way  
Of crowding more into the busy hour,  
With dedicated effort we will wrest  
From Time some hour miraculously born.

. . . . Through the tense silence of this speechless grief,  
A Voice speaks to us from the centuries:  
"Suffer the little children, let them come  
To Me." There is no lesser human power  
Can keep them from the Everlasting Arms  
That now enfold them. Fearlessly they walk  
In cool green meadows, where the Tree of Life  
O'ershadows and protects them as they play,  
Forever joyous, laughing in the sun.  
And when they are avenged, our work is done.