

The Midwife.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2nd, 1941.

1. Applications from Registered Medical Practitioners for Approval as Lecturer.

(a) The Secretary reported the approval granted to the following lecturer under emergency powers:—

Mary Winifred Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Reading Corporation Maternity Home. (Rule B. 37.)

(b) The Secretary reported that the following applications had been granted:—

C. W. R. Burnett, M.D., M.R.C.O.G., Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport. (Rule B. 36 other than (m), (n) and (r).)

Harold Burton, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., Stoke-on-Trent City Hospital. (Rule B. 36 other than (r).)

Austin Brian Concanon, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., St. Mary Abbot's (L.C.C.) Hospital. (Rule B. 36 other than (r).)

(In the absence through illness of the approved lecturer.)

2. Applications from State Certified Midwives for Approval as Teacher:—

(a) The Secretary reported the approval granted to the following teachers under emergency powers:—

Mary Elizabeth Morris Beart, No. 102206, Lewisham (L.C.C.) Hospital. (Second period—district.)

Louisa Annie Clements, No. 78099, Alexandra Maternity Homes, Devonport. (First period.)

Emmeline Marjory Harvey, No. 80265, Bushey and Hillingdon (Middlesex) County Hospitals. (Second period—district.)

Mary Matilda Hooley, No. 53169, The Firs Maternity Hospital, Nottingham. (Second period—intern.)

Ellen Wilhelmina Jacobson, No. 86832, Chesterfield Municipal Maternity Home. (Second period—intern.)

Gertrude Maclean, No. 57484, St. Mary, Islington (L.C.C.) Hospital. (First period.)

Ida May Slinn, No. 75786, Chesterfield Corporation Maternity Home. (Second period—district.)

Lena Mary Walker, No. 82733, York Maternity Hospital. (Second period—district.)

(b) The Secretary reported that the following applications had been granted:—

Annie Selina French, No. 97562; Bessie Hammond, No. 71544; Mabel Foster Taylor, No. 68598; Lewisham or Paddington (L.C.C.) Hospitals. (Second period—district.)

Margery Coram, No. 107517; Doris Annetta Philpott, No. 102731; Daisy Ceridwen Roberts, No. 106834; Bristol Training Scheme. (Second period—district.)

Elizabeth Roberts, No. 51932, Essex County Nursing Association. (Second period—district.)

(As a war-time measure.)

Norah Ethel Wilcox, No. 98821, Warrington Borough General Hospital. (Second period—intern.)

3. Training of Pupil-Midwives.

The Secretary reported that the steady increase in the number of pupils in Part II training schools during 1940 had continued during 1941, and that during the week

September 6th, 1941, the number of new pupils admitted to Part II schools was the highest on record.

4. Nitrous Oxide and Air Analgesia.

The Secretary reported the approval under emergency powers of:—

Birmingham, Dudley Road Hospital; Birmingham, Selly Oak Hospital (these two hospitals were approved jointly with Birmingham Maternity Hospital earlier in the year; they have now been granted independent approval); Perival Maternity Hospital, for the purpose of providing the instruction prescribed in the ruling on the administration of nitrous oxide and air by midwives.

5. The Secretary reported that he had placed on the Roll the names of 14 women holding the certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, the Joint Nursing and Midwives' Council for Northern Ireland, and the Central Midwives Board, Eire, as the case may be.

NITROUS OXIDE AND AIR ANALGESIA.

Nature of prescribed instruction and conditions for approval of institutions for the provision of such instruction.

AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS.

Hitherto the regulations have required that the course of instruction for midwives and pupil-midwives in nitrous oxide and air analgesia shall include the administration, by means of a recognised apparatus, of nitrous oxide and air analgesia to at least 20 patients in labour.

After consultation with the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists the Board has decided to amend the regulations, for a trial period, by reducing the minimum number of patients to whom analgesia has to be administered from 20 to 15.

TO FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

Amid the squalor, filth and plague,
That marked the wartime of your day,
Where ignorance spread her winding sheet,
And superstition had her way,
You walked; and held on high a lamp
Whose flickering flame a healing brought.
Through struggle, anguish, grief and pain,
Was slowly born the nursing art.

A century calmly winds its years,
Your flame an ever widening arc,
For many hands now raise your lamp
To send its rays into the dark;
As swift as day still comes the night
Of pestilence, of storms that rage,
The claws of oft-recurring wars,
The scars of life, the ills of age.

Each generation takes The Pledge,
Knows race nor creed, in peace, through wars.
Scorns not the lowly tasks by day,
Nor anxious watching with the stars;
But strives anew with proud resolve
The great and humble rôles to fill.
Through changing years, in changing ways,
Your honoured trust is guarded still.

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Los Angeles.

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