

# The Midwife.

## THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The Central Midwives Board has announced an alteration in its rules of training, whereby, from a date to be announced later, Registered Sick Children's Nurses will be admitted to the shortened period of training extending over six calendar months for the First Certificate of the Board.

### First Examination, May, 1925.

The Central Midwives Board held its First Examination on May 25th, with the following results:—

ENTERED.—First entries 794, re-entries 177: Total 971.

PASSED.—First entries 605, re-entries 122: Total 727.

PERCENTAGE OF FAILURES.—First entries 23.8, re-entries 31.1, all candidates 25.1.

L. FARRER BROWN, *Secretary.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### OUR FIRST DUTY TO THE SICK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I hope you will think we did right on election day—after your most helpful advice. Here, our little group in Croydon, after looking forward to supporting our great Premier, felt it our duty to refrain from voting at all. After the autocratic manner in which Mr. Willink, Minister of Health, has trampled upon our professional conscience in his administration of the Brown-Bevin Nurses Act, 1943, thrusting its de-grading possibilities upon Registered Nurses, through which we are classed with "Christian Science" women devoid of training and defying medical authority, we could not vote for the Churchill candidate, and made it our duty to prevent others doing so.

Not being in sympathy with the other side we just had to step aside and remain disfranchised—a great disappointment as you will realise. I hope you think we did right.—Yours,

A RESPONSIBLE REGISTERED NURSE.

[We sympathise with this group of conscientious women and commend their decision not to vote for "Willink." Just so long as the Nurses' Act, 1943, remains on the Statute Book the profession of nursing ceases to exist. Away with it at the earliest possible moment and away with politicians who attempt to enforce it. We must organise a systematic demand to members of the new Parliament for justice to Registered Nurses and the sick.]—Ed.]

### MAKING HISTORY.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, R.N., Editor, April 26, 1945.  
THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—During the years when Miss Grace M. Fairley was Director of Nursing at Vancouver General Hospital, we became interested in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and since 1936 we have bound the yearly issues for our Reference Library. We feel that they have historical value not to be overlooked.

With the outbreak of war we expected mailing difficulties, but much to our surprise we have received every copy, except the July, 1944, issue. Of course we do not wish to have the 1944 volume bound with this blank and are writing to ask how we could obtain a copy.

Yours very sincerely,

ANNE S. GAVERS, R.N., *Instructor.*

[Hard-worked Editors keenly appreciate sympathy as expressed above. Of course the issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING required has been supplied with pleasure.—ED.]

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