

The Midwife.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

FIRST EXAMINATION.

August 13th, 1947. From 2 to 5 p.m.

Candidates were advised to attempt to answer all the questions.

1. What advantages are gained and what complications of labour can be avoided by antenatal care?
2. Describe the vulva. What pathological conditions of the vulva may occur during pregnancy?
3. Describe the mechanism of separation of the placenta. What is the practical importance of examining the placenta after delivery?
4. Describe in detail how you would nurse a mother during the first three days of the puerperium, in a normal case.
5. What is meant by the term "neonatal death"? What are the chief causes? Indicate what preventative measures may be taken to avoid neonatal deaths.
6. Name the drugs you may have to use in your midwifery practice, and give the indications for the use of each. What rule relating to the use of drugs does the Central Midwives Board lay down?

NEW SURVEY OF SICKNESS.

The Registrar-General* for England and Wales recently announced that 241,421 births were registered during the quarter ended March 31st, 1947, representing a birth-rate of 22.8 per 1,000 total population. This is the highest birth-rate recorded for any March quarter since 1920. For the same quarter of 1946 the number of births was 181,220, with a rate of 17.1; for the December quarter, 1946, it was 221,815, with a rate of 20.5. Illegitimate births included in the total of 241,421 were 12,286, or 5.1 per cent. of the total births registered, compared with 14,930, or 8.2 per cent., in the same quarter of 1946.

Deaths registered in the quarter were 181,933, giving a death rate of 17.2 per 1,000, compared with 14.7 for the same quarter of 1946. Deaths of children under one year numbered 12,502; the provisional infant mortality rate of 55 per 1,000 related live births was 11 per 1,000 below the average rate for the first quarters of the ten preceding years 1937-1946.

The "natural increase" of population (*i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths in the quarter) was 59,488, the corresponding excess for the March quarter of 1946 being 25,995.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Photographic Display.

At the request of the Ministry of Health, the Central Office of Information is making a new approach to factories and other managements employing over 500 people, asking them to show the Venereal Diseases Photographic Display Set. This request has been made in view of recent figures on the prevalence of venereal disease which show an increase even over the war-time figures. It is hoped that managements will make full use of this opportunity to show, or show again, this display set. At the same time the Central Council for Health Education will undertake arrangements for display by local authorities.

The exhibition was produced for the Ministry of Health

* Registrar-General's Quarterly Return of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the March Quarter, 1947. (H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d., post free 7d.)

and Department of Health for Scotland with the co-operation of the Central Council for Health Education and the Scottish Council for Health Education and with the approval of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It was offered in 1945 to factories and local authorities on free loan, and has so far been borrowed by 155 factories and 53 local authorities. Reports from factories showed that the set was well received, the most frequent comment being that information of this kind should have been made available earlier.

NATIONAL UNIFORM FOR MIDWIVES.

List of Tailors approved by the Central Midwives' Board.

Boyd Cooper, Ltd., 12, Bruton Street, London, W.1. Complete uniform; embroidered badge and buttons.

Egerton Burnetts, Ltd., Wellington, Somerset. Complete uniform.

Crichtons, Ltd., 39, Conduit Street, London, W.1. Overcoat; costume.

Downland Garments, Ltd., 44, Bow Lane, Cheapside-London, E.C.4. (Wholesale) through the following retailers: Bealesons, Commercial Road, Bournemouth, Hants; Broadley Bros., Ltd., 137, High Street, Bromley, Kent, and 68, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent; G. H. Leavey & Co., Ltd., Regent House, Maidstone, Kent; John Walsh, Ltd., The Mount, Broomhill, Sheffield, 10, Yorks. Costume; working dress; blouse (utility and non-utility).

E. J. Frankland & Co., Ltd., and Nurses Supply Association, Marle House, London Road, South Godstone, Surrey. Overcoat.

E. and R. Garrould, Ltd., 150-162, Edgware Road, London, W.2. Overcoat; costume; working dress.

Harrods, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W.1. Overcoat; working dress; blouse.

Kendal Milne & Co., Ltd., Deansgate, Manchester. Overcoat; working dress; blouse.

Nurses' Outfitting Association, Ltd., Carlyle House, Wellington Road South, Stockport, Cheshire. Complete uniform; embroidered badge and buttons.

The Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., Ltd., 10 and 11, Clerkenwell Green, London, E.C.1. Overcoat; costume; working dress; blouse.

W. H. Westmoreland, 38-40, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. Overcoat.

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