

If there be mucus in the trachea or upper respiratory tubes, it should be removed by the tracheal catheter. Should the nurse, however, not be experienced with the catheter, she may suspend the baby by the feet or lower the head and wipe out, with a clean finger, the mucus which will drop forward.

Granted that respiration has been established, temperature 97 deg. or normal, the baby is wrapped in warm flannels and laid in a basket.

Should it not seem necessary to send the baby to a hospital, many ways of keeping it warm may be devised, with fair results. A clothes-basket, lined with a blanket, and with pockets on the sides for hot-water bottles, placed near a stove or steam radiator, with a thermometer beside the baby, is very satisfactory.

We have found that the child wrapped in flannels is in better condition on arrival at the hospital than the one wrapped in cotton, and we would suggest that the best dress is a woollen shirt, a flannel binder, an ordinary diaper, and a flannel slip. Many nurses make the mistake of wrapping the baby in cotton immediately after birth. This is a serious handicap to the child. In the hurry the natural secretions have not been wiped off properly, the cord is allowed to ooze and often is left without a dressing, and in a short time a cold, wet condition exists, reducing the bodily heat very materially. On the other hand, the nurse may use too much oil, and that, together with the cotton covering, naturally causes a clogging of the pores, and a consequent chilling of the surface, reducing the vital heat to the minimum.

Hypothermia is perhaps the most important problem arising in connection with the premature child. To guard against post-natal hypothermia is the nurse's first duty; the importance of keeping a premature baby warm, cannot be too forcibly impressed. The vitality of such a child is naturally low, and if the baby once becomes thoroughly chilled and cyanosed, the roof of the mouth cold, and the temperature 92 deg. to 95 deg., hot dips, hot cloths, stimulants, and even warm incubators are of little avail.

If the temperature of a new-born, premature infant be subnormal (95 deg. to 97 deg.), the hot bath must be given to restore the required heat before the child is wrapped in flannels, or before it is placed in the incubator.

It must be remembered that the incubator serves to lessen the heat loss of the premature baby, and to furnish warm filtered air and a uniform temperature, rather than to restore

bodily heat and vital activities. These depend on direct external heat application and the maintenance of proper nutrition. Therefore, the duty of a nurse to a premature infant is the prevention of heat-loss, the application of heat to help toward that end, protection from jar and shock, careful observation of the infinite details from the moment of birth, and lastly, but not least, to be guided by her womanly instinct in gently and tenderly handling the tiny bit of humanity.

Our Guinea Prize.

We have pleasure in announcing that our Guinea Prize for June has been won by Miss Agnes A. Manser, the Infirmary, Kingston-on-Thames.

KEY TO PRIZE PUZZLES.

- No. 1. Allen's Foot Ease.
All (h)ens foot E E E.
- No. 2. Meinecke's Bed Pan.
M eye neck S bed pan.
- No. 3. Izal.
Eyes all.
- No. 4. Mellin's Food.
MEL lines food.

The following competitors have solved the puzzles correctly:—

Miss G. Watson, Bournemouth; Miss M. Parry, Maida Vale; Miss D. Deverill, Nottingham; Miss A. Lawson, Inverness; Miss E. Windsor, Raubon; Miss M. Whitworth, Mansfield; Miss M. Cowell, Saffron Walden; Miss E. S. Sills, Gravesend; Miss Gower, Dublin; Miss Coster, Cardiff; Miss E. Dinne, West Malling; Miss Paget, London; Miss Swayne, Glasgow; Mrs. Taylor, Southsea; Miss S. S. Sherring, Birmingham; Mrs. Shoesmith, Durham; Miss Davies, L'pool; Miss Tate, London; Miss Moore, Dundee; Miss K. Eckersley, Middlesbrough; Miss A. F. Muller, Boxmoor; Nurse Eliza, Middlesbrough; Mrs. Brown, Bow; Miss N. Crane, Bishopsgate; Miss C. Fleming, Dublin; Miss Grey, London; Mrs. Molony, Cork; Miss A. Stone, Crawley; Miss G. Smart, Cork; Miss F. A. Harding, Dublin; Miss E. Hawker, Fulham; Mrs. Sheard, Chislehurst; Miss Mostyn, Swansea; Miss M. Vallance, Brighton; Miss E. C. Evans, Leicester; Miss Jenkins, Birkdale; Miss Cooper, Aberdeen; Mrs. Etheridge, West Kensington; Miss A. Freeman, Edinburgh; Miss Williams, Dolgelly; Miss A. Stephenson, Consett; Miss Ross, Banff; Miss E. Whittaker, Leeds; Mrs. Joyce, Birmingham; Miss T. Newman, Limerick; Miss A. Jones, London.

The new set of prize puzzles will be found on page viii.

The rules remain the same.

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