

nurses are well paid, whereas in England, where a short term of training for midwives is the custom, and their work, we fear, little esteemed, the fees they receive are small; moreover, the small remuneration commanded by the short time trained midwife depreciates the commercial value of the thoroughly trained nurse, who has midwifery training also. It is a point to be remembered that thorough training tends to good subsequent remuneration, short training to small subsequent remuneration, and where those trained on both systems work in the same branch the tendency is for the fees of the highly skilled person to be dragged down to the lower level.

Throughout the book the hints given are most practical, and are to be commended to all who are concerned in attendance on lying-in cases.

The position in which the infant is placed when taking the breast is a matter of considerable importance. The accompanying illustration

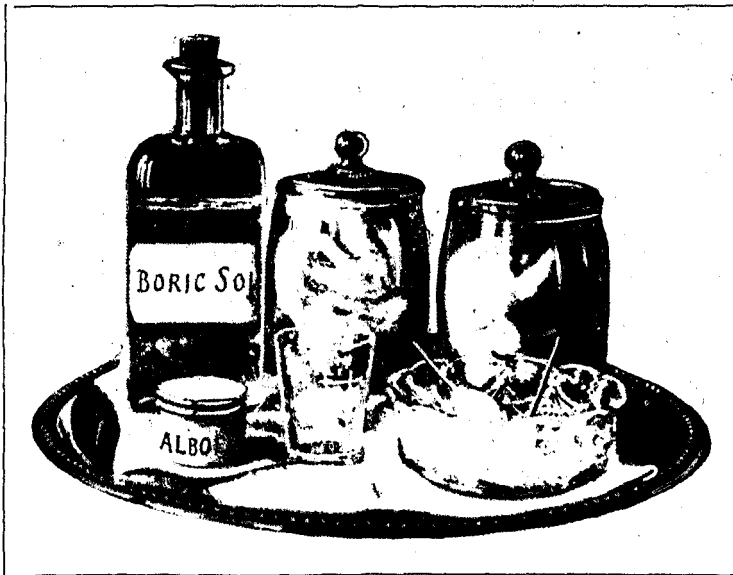
gives that recommended by Dr. De Lee, and will be noted with interest by British nurses and midwives, with whom it is the practice, as a rule, to support the child's head in the bend of the mother's arm when nursing.

In regard to the care of the breasts, the author recommends that the following technique should be carried out after the birth of the child:

"After the mother has slept, usually about eight hours, the nurse prepares the breasts. They are gently washed with soap and water. . . . A loose breast binder is now applied simply to prevent the glands from sagging.

"A short time after this the baby is applied to the nipple. Before and after each nursing the nipple is washed with saturated boric solution, poured from a fresh bottle, not kept

in a glass, using sterilised cotton pledgets on tooth-picks, so called 'applicators.' After the nursing the nipple is anointed with sterile albolene or cocoa butter. The fingers do not come in contact with the nipple at all; if it is necessary to do this the hand must be disinfected. The baby is put to the breast every four hours until the milk comes, then every two hours during the day, and every four hours during the night." The author emphasises the importance of great care in attending to the breasts, so that infection with resulting abscess, and impaired nipples, with resulting necessary weaning of the child, may be avoided.



THE BREAST TRAY AND ITS CONTENTS.

The illustration of the breast tray and its contents shows what is necessary to carry out the above technique. The book abounds in practical wisdom, and deserves a place on the bookshelves of all nurses and midwives. It is published by W. B. Saunders and Co., 9, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., price 12s.

### The Royal Maternity Charity.

The Royal Maternity Charity of London has lately had a stroke of bad luck. The whole of the back wall of the Charity's premises in Finsbury Square has been condemned as unsafe, and has had to be rebuilt. The cost will be about £400, a large sum to an Institution which already has such heavy calls upon its resources. It is hoped that the friends of this ancient and indispensable Charity will rally round it, and help to raise the amount.

Mrs. E. J—, a patient of the Charity, has been safely delivered of triplets. Nurse E. Dawson, Staff Midwife, was entirely unassisted at the accouchement. The mother and children are all doing well.

The King's bounty has been applied for.

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