

The Midwife.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS MATERNITY HOSTEL.

The new Maternity Hostel which is located at 11C, Grange Road, Bermondsey, although it has been formally opened, will not receive its first patients until next week.

The large, well-built house which has been taken for the purpose is well suited to the needs of the hostel, and can accommodate twelve patients, the largest ward containing 6 beds.

The floors throughout have been stained and polished by some secret American process which ensures that they will not need polishing again for three months — this, of course, will be an enormous saving of labour.

The beds are covered with white quilts with a red cross in the centre. The cots for the infants, which stand beside the mothers' beds, are of the Aylesbury collapsible pattern. They stand on trestles and are covered in white canvas which is so made that it can be easily slipped off the framework and washed. The little mattress, also covered in canvas and stuffed with wool, can also be washed, so that an entirely fresh and clean cot can be easily secured at any time.

The walls are enamelled with white Paripan and the rooms, which are bright and simply furnished,

look out upon a large garden at the back. The labour ward contains all that is necessary, and is fitted with regard to economy. The steriliser, which is large enough to take the bowls, is of the fish kettle type, and is heated by a lamp.

The wicker receiver for the baby is of the fisher creel pattern, and is both convenient and easy to handle.

On the top floor are the rooms for the staff, and the Matron's room promises to be quite charming when she has had time to arrange her pretty things.

Down in the basement are roomy kitchens and plenty of storing room. There is a lift for the food, which is, of course, a great advantage both from the view of labour-saving and also of ensuring hot meals.

The self-governing hot-water circulator is a great feature, as a constant supply is automatically guaranteed both day and night. When the water is sufficiently hot the gas which heats it goes out, and lights itself again when the water begins to cool. A treasure indeed!

The hostel is for married women only. Each patient has to pay a minimum of £1 is. weekly.

Already the applicants for booking are far in

excess of the accommodation for some time to come.

The Matron, Miss Jessie Holmes, was trained at



MISS JESSIE HOLMES.

Matron American Red Cross Maternity Hostel, wearing Mons Ribbon, with baby wearing its father's Mons Medal.

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