

learning—30 minutes that may mean a lifetime for some unfortunate victim.

Latest figures (for 1953) show that 1,107 persons lose their lives through accidental drowning, and nearly 1,000 more through asphyxia and electric shock. Some of these lives could possibly have been saved, had artificial respiration been applied promptly, and the Brigade hopes, through its "Save-a-Life Weeks" to increase the chances of recovery of those who get into difficulties while bathing or at work.

Lt. General Sir Otto Lund, Commissioner-in-Chief of the Brigade, spoke in the Home Service on May 18th, and St. John Cadets staged a demonstration of artificial respiration in T.V. Children's Newsreel.

On Saturday, May 21st, a short inaugural meeting was held in the Chapter Hall at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell at 11.0 a.m. The speakers were Lt. General Sir Otto Lund and The Countess Mountbatten of Burma (Superintendent-in-Chief of the Brigade), and a demonstration of artificial respiration was put on by Brigade members who have themselves saved a life by artificial respiration. These included P.C. Fred Argyle, of the Metropolitan Police, who in 1953, while on holiday at Newquay, saved a woman from drowning.

Paradise at Kew.

THERE ARE DAYS at this time of the year when one feels convinced that London is the prettiest capital in Europe. The trees, heavy in leaf, but with their green robes still fresh and young, twirl their branches in backyards, gracing the clothes lines and ugly corrugated roofs of sheds and out-houses.

Lilac and laburnum with their gold and mauve in happy combination of colour, relieving the monotony of Georgian and Victorian architecture. The chestnut trees with their candles of pink and white mark the transition stage from Spring to Summer.

I feel inclined to say to all whom I meet, "Have you been to Kew?" Here the mass of bloom is a sight to behold in the month of May, and in this year seems to have reached perfection.

On a weekday Kew Gardens is indeed a haven of peace and quiet; even the gardeners seem to be hidden away, yet one knows they must be actively engaged somewhere in this wonderland. The scent of lilac meets the nostrils from all quarters and rhododendrons in all stages of bloom rise before one in banks like snowdrifts touched by the magic shades of sunset or indeed of dawn.

Knowledgeable and impertinently mendicant blackbirds give close attention to the couples sitting on benches eating their picnic meals with occasional purple and white magnolia blossom gently falling around them.

In the green glades and scented hollows there is a misty blue haze of bluebells looking like a woven carpet beneath the lime trees.

Museums and glass-houses cannot lure one away from this panorama of glory, except perhaps one may step into the Dutch House, or is it Kew Palace? Queen Caroline, King George II's Queen, had the inspiration to build this house and it was her ambition to plant and nurture around it exotic trees, shrubs and plants. How well she started a nucleus for that which we now enjoy!

Here, for sixpence, we see a tiny rustic London museum. Quaint paintings of birds and beasts, and Hanoverian princelings together with a charming portrait of the Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV and who would have been England's Queen had she not died in childbirth.

Here also we see King George III's fishing tackle. We are told that this King was already subject to fits of madness when this fishing tackle was made. We like to think that this Royal victim of mental disturbance found solace and refreshment for his troubled mind in this Paradise at Kew.

A. R. BUNCH.

The Midwife.

Central Midwives Board.

First Examination.

May 4th, 1955. From 2 to 5 p.m.

1. Describe the anatomical relations of the bladder in the female. In what ways may the bladder be affected by pregnancy and labour?
2. What tests do you carry out on the urine of the pregnant woman when she attends the antenatal clinic? What is the significance of the abnormalities that you may find?
3. What routine observations do you make during the second stage of labour? How may they affect your management of the labour?
4. How do you diagnose a breech presentation? Why is breech delivery best avoided?
5. What are the causes of pyrexia in the lying-in period? What are the midwife's duties in connection with the care of a patient suffering from puerperal pyrexia?
6. Describe the management, during the first week, of a baby born six weeks prematurely.

National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare.

Annual Conference.

CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, LONDON

JUNE 22ND, 23RD AND 24TH, 1955

Preliminary Programme:

"CHILDREN NORMAL AND ABNORMAL—THEIR NEEDS AND HOW TO MEET THEM"

JUNE 22ND (MORNING)

Chairman: Sir Allen Daley, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Chairman of the National Association).

Opening of the Conference by the Minister of Health, the Right Hon. Iain MacLeod, M.P.

"WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR CHILDREN—THE FOLLOW THROUGH SURVEY"

Speaker: J. W. B. Douglas, B.A., B.Sc., B.M., Ch.B. (Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Public Health and Social Medicine, University of Edinburgh).

Openers of discussion: F. J. W. Miller, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Dept. of Child Health, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne), Colin Hindley, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. (Research Psychologist, Child Study Centre, Institute of Child Health, University of London).

JUNE 22ND (AFTERNOON)

Annual Meeting of the General Council of the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare.

A Party is being arranged which will, it is hoped, take the form of a river trip to the Tower of London where delegates will be entertained by the Directors of Messrs. William Hollins & Co., Ltd.

JUNE 23RD (MORNING)

Chairman: J. A. Scott, O.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Medical Officer of Health, London County Council).

"PRESERVING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN"

Speaker: Wilfrid G. Harding, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Deputy Divisional Medical Officer, London County Council).

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