

learned to love years ago in the peace of a country village? The Christmas joy awakes and sings in her heart, and she forgets fatigue and vexation when she arrives at her destination, and the lady from next door announces triumphantly, "Too late, Nuss.. Twins: a boy and gurl, bless their 'earts."

Before she leaves (it is worth recording) she has sufficient spirit left to hang up two tiny woolly boots for Santa Claus, and creates a precedent by placing a penny in each. She also suggests the names of Noël and Christine.

And it was "Good night, Nurse; God bless yer, and I am sure I 'opes you'll 'ave a 'appy Christmas."

And she did. \_\_\_\_\_ H. H.

### The Central Midwives' Board.

EXAMINATION PAPER.  
December 11th, 1908.

The following are the questions set at the recent examination of the Central Midwives' Board:—

1. What may be the causes, during pregnancy, of (a) excessive sickness; (b) puffiness of the hands or face.

What are the duties of a midwife in such cases?

2. What may be the indications for the use of the catheter during the following periods—(a) pregnancy; (b) labour; (c) lying-in?

What are the rules of the Central Midwives' Board relating to the use of the catheter?

3. What is meant by uterine inertia? What are its varieties, and how would you treat each?

4. How would you recognise an occipito-posterior position of the vertex? Describe (a) the usual mechanism; (b) the unusual mechanism. State to what difficulties the latter (b) may give rise.

5. Describe exactly your methods of treatment of post partum hæmorrhage (a) before, (b) after the birth of the placenta.

6. How would you treat a bottle-fed baby a week old that is suffering from diarrhoea and sickness?

### Clapham Maternity Hospital.

A very well-attended drawing-room meeting was held in Collingham Place, by kind permission of Mrs. Woodcock, on Thursday, in aid of the Clapham Maternity Hospital. Amongst those present were the Countess of Eldon, Lady Frederick Bruce, Lady MacDonnell, and others. Dr. Annie McCall, the founder, explained the work the hospital had done for twenty years, and its very great and urgent need of funds on account of the collapse of the building and other pressing necessities.

The present trouble was due to a structural defect of a serious nature to one of the principal buildings. Mr. Waterhouse, of the firm of Messrs. Hart and Waterhouse, had made a survey of the building, and estimated that £400 is required to put this particular structural defect right. It was this amount Dr. Annie McCall was appealing

to the public for especially; but a total fund of £2,500 was required to place the hospital, which is recognised and supported by King Edward's Hospital Fund, on a sound basis, and make such extensions as are urgently called for.

Miss Alice Gregory and Miss L. Garrett Anderson spoke in support of the hospital.

### The Training and Supply of Midwives.

A meeting of the Council of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives was recently held at the office in Dacre Street, Westminster. Dr. Salaman presided.

Mrs. Wallace Bruce, Chairman of the Executive Committee, made a report on the work of the Executive Committee and various Sub-Committees.

Twenty pupils have been trained in the course of the year, besides those who finished their course in the first months, and those who will enter before the close of the year. These were trained at the East Ham Home, East End Mothers' Home, General Lying-in Hospital, and the Leicester Maternity Hospital.

Much interest was shown by the members of the Council present in the various questions brought forward, and special reference was made to the "Method of Work" which had been drawn up by the Executive Committee early in the year.

It was agreed that often the best method is to help towards the maintenance of midwives during the term of working up a practice, and pending local organisation. There followed interesting discussion on the best means of securing a uniform supply of midwives throughout the country, the difficulties of the rural districts being fully realised.

#### METHOD OF WORK.

To communicate with County Medical Officers, Nursing and other Associations, as to the needs of each county, present and prospective, and the best method of grouping villages in order that no one should be beyond the reach of a midwife's services.

(A) If assistance is needed, the Association will co-operate with the local authorities in training suitable women to return to work in their own districts.

If the women cannot themselves afford the cost of training, and there is not sufficient local help, the Association may supplement or, if necessary, pay the entire expense of such training.

In neighbourhoods where it is not possible for a midwife beginning practice to earn a living, the Association is prepared, after due consultation with local bodies, to make grants towards maintenance until a living is assured or adequate local support is organised.

(B) The Association is prepared to recommend midwives to any districts where no local woman is available.

The Association advises and makes all arrangements for training women in any of the schools recognised by the Central Midwives' Board.

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