

The Midwife.

Rules for the Babies' Feeding.

FROM THE LAKESIDE HOSPITAL, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

The midwife is practically unknown in the United States of America, but whether administered by midwife or nurse the same care in regard to the food of babies is necessary, and the following method adopted at the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, as given in the *American Journal of Nursing*, is therefore of interest to midwives.

Have ready at 11 a.m. sharp all changes made by the physician in formulæ for the day, empty bottles, and left over feedings, not including the twelve o'clock feedings, which the head orderly will take to the diet kitchen.

As soon as the feedings are prepared, he will bring them to the wards. After the babies have taken their feedings, the bottles must be emptied, and carefully rinsed with tepid water and then with hot water, and turned upside down to dry.

The nipples must be carefully washed after use, boiled and returned to a separate marked glass. In preparing the food for the children, the nurses must exercise great care in regard to the temperature of the feeding, also in the giving of the food.

Each nurse must cleanse, according to directions, the bottles and nipples that she has used. The senior nurse will be held responsible for having them ready at 11 a.m. sharp.

RULES FOR THE BABIES' DEPARTMENT.

DIET KITCHEN.

At 11 a.m. the head orderly will bring to the kitchen all changes that have been made in the standing formulæ for the day, all empty bottles and all left over feedings. This does not include 12 o'clock feedings. As soon as the freshly prepared food is ready, he will take it to the wards.

All formulæ and special feedings for the babies must be measured, bottled, sterilised, if necessary, between the hours of 1 and 2 p.m. daily, and not at any other time without permission of the principal of the training school.

Each bottle must be carefully tagged with the baby's name so as to prevent mistakes at feeding time on the ward. All preparations must be made up exactly as ordered by the physician, not the smallest possible change made without the written order of the physician.

The measuring of the food must be done only by the dietitian, and during her absence by

the supervisor of the probationers. The whole preparation must be done in an absolutely sterile way; a sterile sheet must be placed upon the table; all utensils, bottles, and rubber caps for the bottles, must be carefully washed and sterilised. Bottles to be sterilised not later than 11.30 a.m.

The dietitian or the supervisor of the probationers must wear a clean apron, and her hands must be carefully cleansed. Sterile boiled water must be used for rinsing the utensils.

When the empty bottles come from the ward they must be placed at once in a large pan of tepid water.

Queen Charlotte's Lying-In Hospital.

The Annual Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Marylebone Road, N.W., was held on Tuesday, Mr. Frederick W. Hunt (Vice-President) in the chair. The report referred to the large increase in the number of in-patients (1,865 as compared with 1,701 in 1907), and of out-patients (2,169 against 1,996 in 1907), and to the very low maternal mortality. Amongst 4,165 out-patients during the past two years there had not been a single death. Moreover, during the past 27 years no fewer than 34,245 women had been attended in their own homes, with a maternal death rate of slightly over one per thousand only. One hundred and thirty pupil midwives passed the Central Midwives' Board examinations last year, out of 139 who competed.

Midwives Act Committee.

The fourth meeting of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Lord President of the Council to consider the working of the Midwives Act was held on February 17th at the Privy Council Office, Mr. Almeric W. FitzRoy presiding.

The following witnesses attended and gave evidence:—Miss Wilson, President of the Incorporated Midwives' Institute; Mr. F. B. Harris, Deputy Town Clerk of Nottingham, on behalf of the Association of Municipal Corporations; Mr. Joseph Brown, of Dewsbury, on behalf of the Association of Poor Law Unions in England and Wales; and Mrs. Wallace Bruce, on behalf of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives.

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