

Will mothers take the trouble to improvise ice boxes of this description? From an experience with mothers who consult the dispensaries I can say that they are anxious to do all in their power to protect their babies. Many would be quick to profit from the lesson if they saw a model of the ice box, were told how cheaply it can be constructed, how it will economise ice, and, finally, how its employment will aid in saving the baby from an attack of the much-dreaded summer complaint. The cost of such ice boxes can be considerably reduced if they are made in large quantities, so that with private and municipal co-operation they could be supplied for much less than the above figures.

Refrigerators of this design, one and a half feet square by fourteen inches deep, have been distributed among the children's dispensaries, dairy kitchens, nurses' settlements, and kindred organisations in New York City, where they are being demonstrated to mothers. It is hoped that this article may encourage other communities to similar action in aid of the poor babies.

Milk Depot.

At the Nurses' Settlement, New York, a daily supply of milk of an unusually high grade is received every morning, bottled under aseptic conditions, and sold at the market price. In case of need it is given without cost.

Direct Representation.

A criticism made on the proposal for the direct representation of midwives on the Central Midwives Board is that none of the members of the Board are elected by this method. It is a curious plea to which the obvious reply is:—"Why should they be?" The Central Midwives' Board is not the Governing Body of the Medical Profession, or of County Councils, or of the other societies represented upon it, which would suffer no hardship if they were excluded, but the midwives, whose Governing Body it is, suffer a distinct wrong so long as any one of their number who desires to have a share in the government of her own profession may not do so. With regard to the objection that so many midwives are at present untrained that does not prevent their having the right to representation if they choose to exercise it. As a matter of practice it is found that illiterate and ignorant people do not as a rule make use of civic privileges, and it is not probable that a large

number of *bonâ-fide* midwives would desire to vote for a direct representative.

In regard to the method of voting, Lord Wolverhampton's Bill to amend the Midwives' Act provides that the Central Midwives' Board shall annually supply to every certified midwife a form on which she is required to send her name and address to the Board. What could be simpler than that once in three years a ballot paper for one or more direct representatives to be elected by the certified midwives on the Roll, should be issued at the same time?

"If there be first the willing mind" we can see no difficulty in providing the necessary machinery for the election of direct representatives.

The medical profession can and do vote for their own representatives; why not the midwives also?

We look forward to the day when objections will cease to be put forward, when we shall all "stop talking and begin to saw wood."

Association of Inspectors of Midwives.

By kind invitation of Dr. Macrory, a meeting was held at 22, St. Stephen's Mansions, Westminster, S.W., on Saturday, June 4th, to draw up rules, etc., for the formation of the above Association, to be submitted to a general meeting, which it was proposed should be held in London on the last Saturday in September.

Any Inspector who wishes to become a member should write for particulars to Miss du Sautoy, 16, Elm Grove, Taunton.

The Central Midwives' Board.

EXAMINATION PAPER. June 15th, 1910.

1. Where is the female bladder? What other structures are in close relation with it? What are the signs that it is overfull? What are the causes of this condition, and how would you remedy it?
2. A woman has been in labour for six hours. On vaginal examination "no presentation can be made out." What are the causes which lead to such a condition, and what is your duty with regard to it?
3. Describe the symptoms of shock following severe post partum hæmorrhage, and state how you would treat it.
4. What questions should be asked and what points should be observed on the first two visits during the lying-in?
5. What are the causes of cracked nipples, and how would you treat this condition when it arises?
6. What are the directions of the Central Midwives' Board with regard to the prevention of inflammation of the eyes in new-born children?