

"Practically all societies make a point of home-visiting. Some confine themselves to this work. At a few places all cases of child-birth in the district among other than the well-to-do classes are visited for some time after the birth. Effort confined to a few cases will probably be found more profitable by most 'schools.'"

#### CONCLUSIONS.

The writer considers that "A central society is necessary which, while leaving full initiative and responsibility to the local societies, should be always ready to supply them with the best and latest information. It should be a co-ordinating and guiding centre of enlightenment, to which all local 'schools' should be affiliated. Propaganda work could be carried on by such a society, and it might well also undertake to supply leaflets, charts, pictures, and other things of the kind required by 'Schools for Mothers.' One of its principal duties should be the collection of information as to the methods and results of 'schools' already at work.

"There should be a great future for such a society. The need has already been felt, and a society, which it is proposed to call the 'British Association of Schools of Mothercraft' is already in course of formation. (Organisers, Dr. J. F. Sykes, Town Hall, St. Pancras, and Miss Bunting.) It is intended that this society shall embrace all sides of the question; and that it shall become a potent source of information and inspiration for all efforts towards the betterment of the upbringing of infants and young children. The field lies ready, and it needs but steady, well-informed, and discreet energy to reap splendid results. Another society—the Society of Infant Consultations—has already been formed (Hon. Secretaries, Dr. Ronald Carter, 11, Leonard Place, Kensington, W., and Dr. J. Lane-Clayton) for furthering certain branches of the work, and it is hoped that this society will work in conjunction with the other, which will have a wider scope."

#### SUBVENTION OF A MATERNITY ASSOCIATION.

The Local Government Board has sanctioned a subscription of £5 5s. for the ensuing year, by the local Guardians, to the funds of the Maternity Nursing Association, 63, Myddelton Square, Clerkenwell.

#### AN EXCELLENT RECORD.

At the annual meeting of the Sussex County Nursing Association at Brighton, the report having contained a reference to the Midwives' Act, Dr. Foulerton mentioned that in January it was expected that 72 per cent. of the midwives practising in East Sussex would be trained women. East Sussex midwives last year attended 1,803 women, and there was only one death. That was a result not equalled in the very best class of London hospitals. Dr. Foulerton also spoke of infant mortality. Taking the whole of England and Wales, 107 children out of every 1,000 which were born died within twelve months. Districts comparable with East Sussex showed an infantile mortality of 97, where the East Sussex figure was 57.

#### Words from Whittier for 1911.

In the economy of God no effort, however small, put forth for the right cause, fails of its effect. No voice, however feeble, lifted up for truth, ever dies amidst the confused noises of time.

Truth should be the first lesson of the child and the last aspiration of manhood; for it has been well said that the inquiry of truth, which is the love-making of it, the knowledge of truth, which is the presence of it, and the belief of truth, which is the enjoying of it, is the sovereign good of human nature.

If it is not permitted us to believe all things we can at least hope them. Despair is infidelity and death. Temporally and spiritually the declaration of inspiration holds good—"We are saved by hope."

Nature's mighty miracle is still over and around us; and hence awe, wonder, and reverence remain to be the inheritance of humanity; still are there beautiful repentances and holy death-beds; and still over the soul's darkness and confusion rises, star-like, the great idea of duty.

#### "EIN FESTE BURG IST UNSER GOTT."

God, give us peace,  
Each in his place  
To bear his lot,  
And, murmuring not,  
Endure and wait and labour!

#### MY SOUL AND I.

What hast thou wrought for Right and Truth,  
For God and Man;  
From the golden hours of bright-eyed youth  
To life's mid span?

#### THE REFORMER.

Take heart!—The Westar builds again—  
A charmed life old Goodness hath;  
The tares may perish—but the grain  
Is not for death.  
God works in all things; all obey  
His first propulsion from the night:  
Ho, wake and watch! The world is gray  
With morning light!

#### THE MANTLE OF ST. JOHN DE MATHA.

Sail on! The morning cometh,  
The port ye yet shall win;  
And all the bells of God shall ring  
The good ship bravely in!

#### THE NEW YEAR.

The wave is breaking on the shore,  
The echo fading from the chime;  
Again the shadow moveth o'er  
The dial-plate of time.

#### LAST WORDS 1910.

But on the river's farther side  
We saw the hill-tops glorified,—