

resident there kindly receiving one of the nurses in her house as a guest for three months in order to test the need. Forty cases were booked during that time, with the result that the work was placed on a more permanent basis. A small branch has also been opened to serve the Camden Town and St. Pancras district.

The Home has no in-patient department, but 658 district cases were attended during the past year in over 50 parishes, and nearly 9,000 visits were paid. Nineteen pupils were trained during the year, all of whom passed the examination of the Central Midwives' Board at their first trial. Three of these were Queen's nurses.

The fees for training are very moderate. The term for pupil midwives without previous training as nurses is six months, and the fee £20. This includes lectures and the examination fee of the Central Midwives' Board.

Trained nurses are received for four months, at an inclusive fee of £18. The fee for training in monthly nursing is £11 for a three months' course.

Both the doctor and matron are "approved" by the Central Midwives' Board.

Pupils attend the cases under the orders of the doctor or midwife, and at the time of the confinement record all details in their notebooks. They report to the matron each day all details of their daily visits. The morning rounds begin at 9 a.m., and the evening rounds at 5 p.m. When a call to a new case comes they are expected to be out of the house within five minutes in the day-time, and twelve minutes at night.

That the work of the Home is appreciated by the patients is proved by the popularity of the monthly "At-homes," the difficulty being to find room for all who attend. The babies are weighed and inspected, and the mothers are grateful for advice concerning them.

During the past year 15 private cases have been attended, and it is hoped that this branch of the work may increase.

A list of all the nurses trained by the Association and the present positions held by them are published in its annual report. Its former pupils include the matron at St. Mary's Nursery College, Hampstead, a Queen's Superintendent and a considerable number of Queen's nurses, a health visitor, a school nurse under the L.C.C., two missionary nurses, as well as institutional, district and private nurses.

The second house has not yet been formally opened, but we believe the opening ceremony will take place shortly. No doubt all the rooms will soon be filled with pupils.

THE CERTIFIED MIDWIVES TOTAL ABSTINENCE LEAGUE.

The Women's Total Abstinence Union extended a cordial invitation, of which many certified midwives availed themselves, to the annual meeting of the Midwives' Total Abstinence League, which is affiliated to the larger society, and which was held at Caxton Hall on Tuesday last. Tea and coffee were served at 3.30, and at 4 o'clock the chair was taken by the Hon. Mrs. Eliot Yorke, who was supported on the platform by Dr. Annie McCall, President of the League, and Mrs. Robinson, President of the Union of Midwives.

The Chairman said that she had recently returned from the Congress held at The Hague, a Congress which could not fail to strengthen the convictions of those who were present. They felt that the temperance movement was far more than ever in the forefront of the curriculum of those who wished to benefit humanity.

She then called on Dr. Annie McCall to address the meeting.

Dr. McCall said that she wished to give a few facts from the physiological standpoint. It was Dr. Jeremy Taylor who said in the seventeenth century "We pour in drink and we let out life."

Midwives were a class of people often overtired and over-worked, and always expected to be at their best, and it was their duty to keep their own health in as good condition as possible. To achieve this the use of alcohol was not necessary. It was harmful to most people, and essentially bad for workers, and it was no help to midwives and nurses who had to stand a prolonged strain. It was a curious, subtle, dangerous and profound foe.

In the case of tuberculin treatment of consumption it was absolutely essential that the patient should be a total abstainer, the tissues were not otherwise in good order to receive the treatment which was useless to them. Dr. McCall, explaining the action of alcohol, said that it was a pseudo-stimulant and a nerve paralyser. She described its effect upon the stomach, the brain, and the heart. The brain was exceedingly sensitive, and reacted extremely quickly. Alcohol was like a whip to a horse. It released a certain amount of force, and perhaps, enabled a person to go on faster for a time, but it did it at the expense of nerve force.

For the nursing mother it was specially harmful. There was also a grave moral danger,

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