

surely any efficient sister would have given a nurse notice of vaccination day, and have told her to bring the patients' boards down with her to the medical inspection.

Later on we read:—

"I have solved to my own satisfaction the problem of why life here is made so impossible during the first two months—namely, in order that the hospital may secure a reliable income by means of the nurses who pay the premium, and then leave after a few days. Of course, there is so much competition that their places can easily be filled, and the money is kept. Having grasped this fact I am determined to use my influence in future to persuade any new nurses to stick to it, for, after all, two months *can* be lived through if one just remembers that it is only *pro tem*."

Another incident related is that of a pupil nurse who had previously had three years' training, and who, in Nurse Roberts' graphic language, "had a real big row with my old enemy, Sister D. Naturally, the latter, per usual, went out of her way to be as disagreeable as she possibly could, and for a considerable time Nurse C. stood it quietly, the three years' training having the effect of invariably making a nurse stand almost anything from a 'superior officer.' . . . However, a climax came, and she told Sister D. a good many home truths, scoring heavily, without losing her temper at all. Then she went down and told the matron that she could not possibly work under Sister D. any more. Of course, the matron said she'd work exactly where she chose or leave the hospital. Nurse C. replied that in that case she would leave the hospital, and she has."

These are a few incidents in a book by no means overdrawn. Space forbids us to do more than refer to night duty and the matter of the babies' feeds, in which, by her own showing, Nurse Roberts was distinctly deceitful for lack of a little moral courage. The work in the labour ward, and finally on the district, with its great human interest, are graphically portrayed.

The book is distinctly worth reading, and many nurses will admit that its portraits are far from mythical of the time and place.

M. B.

A USEFUL INSTITUTION.

The second house which, as we reported recently, has been added to the headquarters of the Maternity Nursing Association, 63, Myddelton Square, E.C., was formally opened on Wednesday, October 18th, when its friends and well-wishers assembled in force.

The guests were received by the Chairman, Miss Blunt, the Matron, Miss Muriel, and members of the committee, and the members of the staff circulated hospitably around with tea, cakes and other dainties, which were much appreciated.

At half-past four a short service of dedication was held, conducted by the Rev. T. Bullock, Vicar of St. Mark's, Myddelton Square, who in the course

of a brief address spoke highly on the good work carried on by the staff of the Home, amongst the mothers in the surrounding district, which he described as quite the best he had seen anywhere. In the houses where the midwives and nurses had been at work he saw the difference at once.

Much admiration was expressed for the way in which the new house had been adapted; and the good taste which had influenced the selection of papers, furniture, and pictures, resulting in a harmonious whole, was everywhere in evidence. The sterilizing cupboard in the basement, with its ample, zinc covered, well stocked shelves, from which the midwives obtain fresh supplies for their bags, is a department of which the Matron is justly proud. The houses are well supplied with bathrooms, and baths can be had, as one of the staff put it, *ad lib*—a luxury, as well as a necessity, which all who have done district midwifery will appreciate.

The permanent staff of the Home consists of Miss Muriel and her assistant, and three midwives. The pupils who have been sent up for the examination of the Central Midwives Board have been very successful, so that its reputation as a training school is steadily increasing.

Just now, owing to the extra expenses incurred by the addition and furnishing of the new house, the funds are quite exhausted, and the committee ask for generous support for the Annual Bazaar which is to be held at the Finsbury Town Hall, Rosebery Avenue, on Tuesday, November 21st, from 2.45 to 7 p.m. Contributions for the stalls will be gratefully received by the Matron, and the committee specially plead for left-off clothing for sale in the evening to patients. Cakes, country produce, and refreshments should be sent direct to the Finsbury Town Hall before 11 a.m. on November 21st, or to the home on the previous day.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

Examination Paper, October 23rd, 1911.

1. What do you mean by the terms: Threatened abortion? Inevitable abortion? Having advised that medical assistance be sent for, how would you treat these conditions until the doctor arrives?
2. What symptoms would lead you to suspect that eclampsia may occur? What would you do in such a case before the arrival of the doctor?
3. How would you manage the second stage of a natural labour? Describe in detail any antiseptic precautions you would think it right to use.
4. Describe the condition of a patient immediately after severe but not fatal post partum hæmorrhage. How would you treat this condition?
5. What does the Central Midwives Board direct you to do if you find a patient with a temperature of 101 deg. F. on the fourth and fifth days of the puerperium? Mention the possible causes of such a rise of temperature.
6. By what day should a breast fed baby regain its birth weight? What are the common causes of its failure to do so, and what would you do in each case?

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