

strange woman or to the cold, bare walls of an institution.

This is the corrective work, the "rescue" work, as it is poorly called, the patching up of a bad situation.

Much more important is the laying of plans by which mothers in the future will be taught how to care for and feed *themselves*, so that when the baby comes it will first of all be a healthy baby, and, secondly, that they will know how to care for and feed it, to the end that the sickness which now makes our hospitals and institutions necessary may be prevented; that misery and wretchedness may be eliminated; that the shadow of the hand of death may be withdrawn, and that the home may be kept intact.

This is the greatest work. Its requirements are few; they can be furnished by any community, whether it be small or large.

Prevention is easy. It can be simply taught by doctors and nurses. If an adequate number of these workers can be *provided* by municipalities to teach mothers the truth about themselves, about the importance of breast feeding and the care of their infants; and if they do their work intelligently, with the *co-operation* of the mothers, infant mortality can be cut in half, perhaps more than half.

UNCERTIFIED MIDWIFE FINED.

At Loughborough Petty Sessions, Mary Nail, of Quorn, was fined £2, including costs, for practising as a midwife without being certified under the Midwives' Act.

THE ROYAL MATERNITY CHARITY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Maternity Charity of London was held at 31, Finsbury Square, E.C., on February 14th. Mr. R. I. Tasker presided, and the annual report and financial statement were adopted.

Mr. Tasker referred to the loss the Charity had sustained by the death of its Chairman, Deputy Cornelius Barham, a man of singular charm of character. He said further that the committee of the Charity viewed the future with great anxiety. The demands of other institutions upon public benevolence continued to increase, but the needs of the Charity also increased rather than declined.

The services rendered by the Secretary, Major Killick, were warmly acknowledged. At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. Killick hospitably provided tea for all present.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following were the questions set at the examination of the Central Midwives' Board, held in London and the Provinces on February 13th:—

1. Describe the sutures and fontanelles of the foetal skull. What is their importance in midwifery practice?

2. What are the symptoms and signs of pregnancy at the fifth month?

3. What are the causes of delay in the birth of the trunk of the child after the head has been born? How would you ascertain the cause, and what treatment would you carry out?

4. Describe the various methods you have been taught for the resuscitation of infants born apparently dead. Which of these methods do you prefer, and why?

5. What daily observations should a midwife make on visiting her patient during the lying-in period?

6. Under what conditions must a certified midwife recommend that the assistance of a registered medical practitioner be obtained?

HANDY LITTLE CARDS.

Messrs. Charles Zimmermann & Co., 9 and 10, St. Mary-at-Hill, E.C., are issuing free to nurses, on application, some handy little maternity cards which are useful for supplying to patients when the supplies are left to their discretion to advise.

The card asks the patient to obtain from her chemist: Lysol, one bottle, boracic acid powder, starch powder, glycerine borax, and cotton wool, with space for the cost and the signature of the nurse. It provides a convenient and easy method of acquainting the patient with articles she will need at her approaching confinement.

WANTED—ARTISTIC POSTERS.

Recognising the value of the present trend towards education through the eye, the National League for Physical Education and Improvement is organising a competition, with valuable money prizes, for the best designs for popular, pictorial health posters, suitable for use at the outpatients' departments of hospitals, dispensaries, infirmaries, "Schools for Mothers," Mothers' Meetings, or other places where mothers congregate. The designs will be exhibited at the Nursing and Midwifery Conference, to be held in London in April and of which a special section will be devoted to the work of Health Societies. Full particulars of this and other competitions may be obtained from the Secretary of the League, at 4, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.

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