

*Hull Workhouse.*—M. H. Taylor.  
*Ipswich Nurses' Home.*—M. C. McHugh,  
 A. B. Rouse.  
*Liverpool Maternity Hospital.*—E. Thomas.  
*Manchester, St. Mary's Hospitals.*—M. H.  
 Gattey, A. Laycock.  
*Monmouthshire Training Centre and Newport  
 Union Infirmary.*—M. A. Griffiths.  
*Norwich Maternity Charity.*—V. L. Forrest,  
 M. E. Petch.  
*Nottingham Workhouse Infirmary.*—J. E.  
 Tomlinson.  
*Portsmouth Military Families' Hospital.*—  
 E. M. Carter.  
*Sheffield, Jessop Hospital.*—J. Hughes, R. H.  
 Spetch.  
*Shorncliffe, Helena Hospital.*—E. E. Brown.  
*Walsall Union Workhouse.*—G. Beeston.

## SCOTLAND.

*Aberdeen Maternity Hospital.*—W. M. Skene.  
*Dundee Maternity Hospital.*—A. M. Climie,  
 M. Lowe.  
*Glasgow Maternity Hospital.*—J. Gray, E. M.  
 Newel, J. M. Paton, E. Smith, M. A. Templeton.

## IRELAND.

*Curragh Military Families' Hospital.*—F. Fagan.  
*Dublin, Rotunda Hospital.*—F. E. Collins.

## ABROAD.

*Bombay, Bai Moolibai Hospital.*—R. L. Weston.

## DOCTOR'S FEES IN MIDWIVES' CASES.

A special meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held in camera on Tuesday afternoon, when the business on the agenda was the consideration of a letter from the National Health Insurance Commissioners, England, requesting the Board's observations as to the scale of fees which should be adopted with regard to the fees payable to doctors in respect of the Maternity Benefit under Section 18 (1) of the National Health Insurance Act, 1911.

Sir Robert Morant, Chairman of the National Insurance Commission, attended, and conferred with the Board on the question of the fee to be prescribed for payment to a doctor when summoned by the advice of a midwife under the provisions of the National Insurance Act, in relation to the Maternity Benefit.

Section 18 (1) of the Insurance Act provides that "if, in the case of a midwife being selected, a duly qualified medical practitioner is subsequently summoned in pursuance of the rules made under the Midwives Act, 1902, the prescribed fee shall, subject to regulations made by the Insurance Commissioners, be recoverable as part of the maternity benefit." It therefore becomes necessary that these regulations shall be framed by the Commissioners by the 15th inst. The legal effect of the provision is to make the Friendly Society liable for the doctor's fee, even if it has already paid the 30s. to the woman. On the other hand, if the Society keeps the money in hand until it knows its liabilities in respect of the doctor's fee, the mother will not receive the money when she needs it most.

## AN OLD FRIEND IN A NEW DRESS.

This year the *Midwives Record and Maternity Nurses Magazine* makes its appearance as a monthly, price 2d., and its white cover gives place to a blue one. It is published by Messrs. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, of 8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, and is excellently printed and contains many articles which should be of interest to both midwives and maternity nurses.

## THE PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY.

An interesting and practical address by Mrs. Annie E. Barnes, on "The Opportunities of the Voluntary Visitor in the Prevention of Infant Mortality," may be obtained from her, at 25, Duppas Hill, Croydon, price 3d. Mrs. Barnes points out that more infants die from immaturity than any other cause, if this term is taken to include prematurity, congenital defects, and wasting diseases; and it is obvious that in the majority of such cases, the cause of death must be sought before and not after the birth of the child; and in very many before, and not merely during the pregnancy of the mother—so that we are at once face to face with that terrible problem, the marriage of the unfit.

To combat this, she considers that the awakening of the national conscience in regard to the three following points, at least, is urgently necessary: 1st, That the young people of all classes should be reverently taught the facts of life—for ignorance or wrongly acquired knowledge are the precursors of self-indulgence and disease; 2nd, that the sense of parental responsibility should be deepened, and the voluntary visitor can sometimes point out carefully and tenderly that it is an awful thing to hand on to another generation a heritage of syphilis, epilepsy, and the like; 3rd, the sense of the privilege of parenthood should be deepened. Again, fresh air and nourishing food are the two paramount necessities for the expectant mother; and it is within the visitor's power to show that without the "brick" of oxygen in the mother's blood, the little "baby-house" cannot be well and truly built; and the mother who has subsisted on bread and tea—or worse still beer—is hardly likely to bring forth a vigorous child.

## THE ENDOWMENT OF MOTHERHOOD.

A non-contributory scheme for the endowment of motherhood has recently been adopted by the Municipal Council of Vitry-sur-Sein, for the benefit of necessitous mothers and the parents of large families. It takes no account of one-child families, but upon the birth of a second child the mother can claim a bonus of 25 frs. This is increased with the number of children until a sum of 100 frs. is paid for the sixth and subsequent children. Unmarried mothers are also included in the benefits, 15 frs. monthly being allowed them for a period not exceeding six months.

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