

TREATMENT CENTRES FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

A special meeting of the General Council of the Association of Infant Consultations and Schools for Mothers (the Infant Welfare Department of the National League for Physical Education) was held at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock Place, W.C., on April 10th, to consider the question of Treatment Centres for Children under School Age. The chair was taken by Dr. I.G. Gibbon, who said that Schools for Mothers were multiplying rapidly, but the League would not rest content until, in every working-class district one consultation centre was established. There was need for better provision for treatment after infancy, at a most susceptible period of life. The work was essentially preventive, and even more important than treatment.

The first speaker was Miss Eckhard (of the Manchester School for Mothers), who opened the proceedings by defining the sphere of work of Infant Consultations and Schools for Mothers in contradistinction to that of treatment centres. She thought that if treatment were given at consultation centres the healthy babies would be crowded out. There should be a School for Mothers within reach of every mother, and an organized system of infant treatment in every

town. There was some danger, lest Schools for Mothers should be concerned entirely with physical training. Mental and moral training must not be forgotten.

The discussion was opened by Dr. Ethel Bentham (of the Women's Labour League Clinic, in North Kensington), who said that many children reached school age definitely damaged, and their low standard of health was deplorable.

Many other speakers followed, conspicuous amongst them Sir Arthur Clay (of the Charity Organization Society), whose views were subsequently much criticized; Dr. Eric Pritchard, and Sir Victor Horsley, who logically advocated co-ordination through the Medical Officer of Health for the district; and the wife of an artisan who pleaded for ante natal care of mothers, by which years of suffering might be prevented.

A NURSE AND HER CHARGE.

The charming picture on this page, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Mrs. Bernard Mole (Directress), represents a nurse at St. Michael's Nursery Kindergarten, Grove Terrace, Highgate, London, N.W., and her little charges. The Nursery

Kindergarten provides for the training of Catholic educated women, and others who require a practical and inexpensive training in nursery methods. There is a demand for children's nurses which far exceeds the supply; and educated women find in the nursery a well-paid career.



A NURSE AND HER CHARGES.
ST. MICHAEL'S NURSERY KINDERGARTEN.

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