

BIRMINGHAM BABIES.

The accompanying picture demonstrates that not only babies born in happy circumstances have charm, but that when properly cared for those of the most destitute class of the community are healthy, attractive, and wholesome. The group is taken outside the maternity block at the Dudley Road Infirmary, Birmingham. In the centre is the Matron, Miss Thomas, with a baby in her arms. To her right in the picture is the Sister in charge of the block, Miss M. Jordan, who must surely have been predestined for this post, so completely does she seem to fit into it. The whole department is obviously in first-rate order, and

fully as babies should and "as good as gold," which goes to prove that when rationally treated this is the natural tendency of babies.

POST-GRADUATE WEEK AT YORK ROAD LYING-IN HOSPITAL.

(Concluded from page 494.)

On Thursday, 21st ult., Sister Cass, who gave the clinical lecture, spoke in a clear, precise, and interesting manner, commencing with infants' charts. The specimens shown were models of their kind, and gave a concise history of the short life at a glance. She briefly explained a few points about weight—increase and decrease—and its indications, leading up to the important matter



THE NURSES AND PATIENTS, MATERNITY WARDS, THE INFIRMARY, DUDLEY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM.

her brightness with the mothers and her love of the babies must make her a most valuable assistant to the Matron. Good food and fresh air are strong points in the management of this department. The food, so necessary to build up the constitutions of the mothers and fit them for the struggle of life once more, is of the best, and convalescents are encouraged to sit out of doors in the sweet, fresh air. Moreover, a visitor to this department, on a morning that is warm and fine, will probably see extended on the grass just outside the maternity block a comfortable-looking mattress covered with fleecy blankets; a most inviting-looking resting-place. Closer inspection will prove that the blankets enclose some half-dozen or more babies, sleeping happily and peace-

of feeding. The gain in weight in a healthy infant after regaining its birth weight, should be one ounce a day. The Sister explained that the method of "test feeding" in vogue at the Hospital for delicate babies, and lazy babies who would not take sufficient, had proved very successful, and was the only means of knowing how much the baby was taking. The baby is weighed before and after being put to the breast; if it has not gained anything, it is at once put back again. If, in spite of this treatment, it does not improve, the quality of the mother's milk is tested; should it be below the standard, she is given extra and more nourishing food. Should the quality then not be up to the mark, the baby is given 20-30 minims. of cream before the feed. Great stress

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