

of so many laid down for the cause of civilisation, liberty, and humanity.

The Hon. Mrs. Maurice Glyn seconded the motion, and spoke in glowing terms of the value of the Home to the mothers of East London. In it they obtain rest and comfort and the attention it is impossible for them to get in their own small homes. That the attention is appreciated this little story shows. While the meeting was in progress a mother came to ask for a card of admission as an In-patient. She was told she had come at the wrong time and to come again the next day. She replied, "Please, Miss, can't you give me my card now, my husband went away to the Front this morning, and his last words to me were: "Now, mate, you go and fix up with the Nurses, and I shall know that you are all right." As a centre of teaching where the mother can learn to take care of the precious lives entrusted to her the home is doing yeoman service. Mrs. Glyn also had a kind word for the Nurses, who she said, were doing as great a work for their country as their sisters at the Front. To care lovingly and skilfully for the wives of our soldiers and sailors, to take care of the soldiers' and sailors'—and civilians' babies, and to give them a good start in life, is surely a noble work for any woman, and should recompense her for long days and nights of hard anxious work.

A cordial vote of thanks to her Majesty Queen Amelie brought the formal proceedings to a close. The visitors were then entertained to tea, after which they spent a most enjoyable time amongst mothers and babies.

Queen Amelie spoke graciously to all the mothers and noticed every baby. Two babies came in for special attention. One aged 4 hours and weighing 9½ lbs. and another premature person of a week old, who although she weighs 6 ozs. over her birth weight, now only turns the scales at 3½ lbs. Her Majesty took her departure amid the cheers of a crowd, who, by some instinct had learned that a Queen was amongst them. There was no mistaking the sentiments of the East-enders, for although at that moment some were doing their best to break shop windows a few yards away, those round Queen Amelie's carriage bared their heads and threw kisses. One old fellow, overcome by many emotions, kissed Her Majesty's hand and shouted as the carriage drove off: "We will make the Germans pay for you, Lidy,"

The Mothers' Home has been called an "Oasis" in the middle of dusty Commercial Road, and the description suits it admirably. One felt quite sorry when it was time to leave. The gardens are delightful, and the Wards on Wednesday looked specially cool and dainty with the green walls and rows of white beds each with a white cot at the end. Smiling mothers, contented babies, and masses of beautiful Spring flowers completed as pretty a picture as one would wish to see.

Great credit is due to Miss Anderson and her staff in organising and carrying out such a very excellent work.

MIDWIFE'S APPEAL ALLOWED.

In our last issue we reported the proceedings in the High Court of Justice, in the case of *Stock v. the Central Midwives' Board*, and that judgment was given for the midwife; but we were unable to publish in detail the proceedings on Wednesday, May 12th, when Mr. Eales appeared for the appellant, and Lord Robert Cecil, K.C., and Mr. Theobald Mathew for the Board.

Mr. Eales contended that misconduct under Section 3 [5] of the Act, and the rules made in connection with it, did not affect the private character of the midwife, and that the Board ought not therefore to have had found her guilty of misconduct. Also—and here he made a strong point—she should have been supplied with a copy of the evidence against her which was before the Central Midwives' Board on October 22nd.

Lord Robert Cecil also made a strong point when he contended that although it was a judicial body the main function of the Central Midwives' Board was to provide trustworthy midwives. Further, that a midwife of bad character, if called to attend a married woman, might corrupt the husband, and the knowledge that she was of such character might have a bad effect on the wife. It could not be right that the official certificate should be given to a woman of bad repute.

In summing up, the Lord Chief Justice—after reviewing the case, which arose on a charge of misconduct against the midwife in cohabiting with a man who was not her husband—emphasised the right of the midwife to appeal, and the duty of the Court to see that justice was done. He further pointed out that notice was given to the appellant of the adjourned inquiry in October, but she did not appear. The Board met in her absence, and had before them a report, which the Court now knew to have been inaccurate. The Board came to the conclusion that the midwife had not told the truth in regard to her husband and children, and removed her name from the Roll.

The Lord Chief Justice held that the term misconduct in Section 3 of the Act was not limited to the discharge of the duties of a midwife. He did not wish it to be thought that the Board was wrong to come to that conclusion. Each case must be decided on its merits, and the Central Midwives' Board was a body competent to form conclusions.

Under the Rules of the Board, the evidence submitted to it should have been verified by Statutory Declaration, and the midwife should have been supplied with a copy of the Declaration. This was not done, and it was a serious matter. The Board should strictly comply with its own rules, and the omission was fatal to the case. The appeal must be allowed, with costs.

Mr. Justice Avory and Mr. Justice Lowe concurred. The former remarked that the feelings of patients had to be considered. He thought the result would be mischievous if lying-in women were attended by women of immoral life.

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