

### THE BRITISH HOSPITAL FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES.

The Annual Meeting of the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, held on Friday, June 18th, at 24, Park Lane, by kind permission of Countess Brassey, the Countess of Stamford being in the chair, was specially interesting because it was the first occasion since the amalgamation of the Home for Mothers and Babies and the Training School for Midwives, at Wood Street, Woolwich, and the British Lying-in Hospital, Long Acre, has been completed.

The first speaker was Lord Sydenham, who emphasised the needless wastage of infant life, and said that all desired that the evil of the present War should be counterbalanced by some good. If it led to more care of the mothers and babies it would have its compensations. The England we had known would never be the same again, and we should need every young life. Only vigorous and healthy young women could bear and rear healthy children. He was strongly in favour of the Notification of Births Act being made universal and compulsory, and he was glad that the new President of the Local Government Board had taken this subject in hand.

Sir Francis Champneys, Chairman of the Central Midwives Board, said that he presumed he had been invited to speak because the Board has a parental oversight over all training schools. Emphasising the importance of the midwife's office, Sir Francis Champneys said that the midwife was the natural confidante of the mother, and it was in order to guide the midwife, and to help her to discharge her duties efficiently that the course of training at the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies had been specially planned. Any attempt to help the mothers and children which did not include the midwife was doomed to failure. Commenting on the year's training given at the above hospital, Sir Francis said that he wished all midwives could have a year's training. That did not seem possible at the present time, but he hoped the training required under the Midwives Act would soon be extended from three to six months.

The life of a midwife was arduous and not highly remunerated. Unless the midwife felt her vocation as a calling in which she was doing something for her country it would not be worth her while to adopt it. The same spirit must energise her as that which energised the greater part of the medical profession—the desire to serve the public.

Sir Francis concluded by moving the adoption of the report, which was eloquently seconded by Miss Alice Gregory, one of the Hon. Secretaries of the Hospital, and carried unanimously. The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

The Education Committee of the County of Norfolk have allocated a sum of £500 towards the cost of training Nurses and Midwives in accordance with the scheme submitted by the Norfolk Nursing Federation.

### POUND DAY AT QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S HOSPITAL.

The Ladies' Association at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Marylebone Road, N.W., are arranging to hold a Pound Day at the Hospital on Wednesday, July 14th, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and are anxious to obtain a large number of gifts for the use of the Hospital.

The expenses of the Hospital have increased since the outbreak of war, in consequence of much higher prices for articles of food, and owing to the fact that the wives of soldiers and sailors are being attended free of charge. Over 300 of these have been admitted to the Hospital, and arrangements have been made to attend 500 others in their own homes.

A pound or more of any of the following will be gratefully received at the Hospital on Pound Day:—A £ in gold, a £ in silver, and a pound of tea, coffee, sugar, rice, tapioca, semolina, macaroni, cornflour, flour, rolled oats, split peas, lentils, haricot beans, pearl barley, raisins, currants, sultanas, jam, marmalade, golden syrup, butter, bacon, cheese, soap or soda.

There is therefore plenty of choice for every one, and we hope gifts will roll in.

### MOTHER CRAFT AND CHILD WELFARE EXHIBITION.

The Women's Imperial Health Association, 7, Hanover Square, W., is arranging a Mother-craft and Child Welfare Exhibition at the Passmore Edwards Institute, Tavistock Place, W.C., from July 3rd to 10th, from 2.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. daily. Admission free. The object of the Exhibition is to help mothers, and those who are engaged in instructing mothers and all who are interested in the health and welfare of the Nation.

The Exhibition will comprise the following sections:—(1) An Artificial Feeding Exhibit. Talks will be given daily at 6 p.m. by medical experts in charge of infant consultations; (2) Baby Care. Lectures given daily on Mother-craft, Prenatal Care, and kindred subjects; (3) Model Clothes for babies of six months upwards; (4) Model of Day Nursery. Lecture by Muriel, Viscountess Helmsley; (5) Dental Exhibit. Lectures by Mr. G. Thomson, L.D.S.; (6) Model of garden toys, &c., made by children; (7) Housewifery and Cookery Exhibit; (8) Fly Exhibit. Lectures by Dr. Halford Ross and Dr. King Brown; (9) Model trestle bedsteads; (10) The Baby killer (giant comforter); (11) Models of tenement rooms; (12) Literature and Book Stall.

#### LECTURE BY DR. LOUIS SAMBON.

Of special interest will be the lecture on the Protection of Children against Insect-born Diseases by Dr. Louis Sambon, on Wednesday, July 7th, at 4.30 p.m. Dr. Sambon's world-wide experience gives him a unique place among authorities on this subject.

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