

The Midwife.

TRAINING SCHOOLS IN MIDWIFERY.

THE MARYLEBONE WORKHOUSE MATERNITY WARDS.

How many people who pass up and down Northumberland Street, Marylebone, suspect that within the precincts of the Marylebone Workhouse there flourishes an excellent school of midwifery, recognised by the Central Midwives Board; the Medical Officer of the workhouse, Dr. Fraser, being an approved teacher under the Board.

Yet investigation reveals not only the existence of such a school, but that its pupils take a high

The Maternity Department consists of a flat at the top of a block, with two wards, each containing eight beds, one used as the maternity ward proper, and the other for convalescent, and occasionally waiting cases. There is also a single septic ward, used for venereal and other septic cases. The bed, which is of convenient height, has the usual iron framework, fracture boards, and a mattress in three divisions, each being covered with red mackintosh sheeting.

The labour room is equipped with every requisite, and on either side of the gas fireplace are to be noted two delightful practical little cradles in which newly born infants can be



Dr. Fraser, Mrs. Simmonds, Mr. Hattersley,
Medical Officer Matron Master
THE STAFF OF THE MARYLEBONE WORKHOUSE.

place in the C.M.B. examinations. Organized by Dr. Basil Hood, now Medical Superintendent at the St. Marylebone Infirmary, and the Matron of the Workhouse, Mrs. Simmonds, who is a trained nurse and a certified midwife, the result has been to secure for the patients who enter the wards highly skilled treatment and care, and to utilise these wards as a valuable training ground for midwifery pupils. Originally restricted to the nursing staff at the Marylebone Infirmary, this training is now offered free of charge, with board, lodging, and washing to nurses trained in other schools, and they will be wise to avail themselves of the opportunity. Mrs. Simmonds was trained at the St. Pancras Infirmary and the Clapham Maternity Hospital.

placed until it is their turn for attention. The frame is of galvanised iron, the bottom of canvas laced on, and the sides of white dimity. The whole can be easily washed at any time.

Amongst the treasures of the department are a number of specimens, beautifully mounted and preserved in formalin, which have been collected and preserved by Nurse Andrews and Nurse Twigg, the midwives who take alternate night and day charge. Until recently there have been two pupil midwives, but the work has increased so much that at present there are three.

A considerable number of the patients are unmarried girls with their first babies, and it is good to know that the Workhouse Girls Aid Committee visit the workhouse and are ready to

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