

Dr. Fairbairn's post-graduate lecture dealt with the examination of the pregnant woman, and a scheme for note-taking was briefly outlined. The main objects of the examination are the prevention of abortion, the early recognition of contracted pelvis, toxæmic symptoms and signs, and abnormal medical or obstetrical conditions that necessitate the attendance of a registered medical practitioner. If every practising midwife would carry out the advice given by Dr. Fairbairn, and would study ante-natal hygiene and care, the community would reap lasting benefit.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30TH.

On Friday, June 30th, demonstrations were given in the milk kitchen in the morning by Sister French.

In the afternoon the party divided into two, one visiting the Medical Museum and the other going to Wembley to inspect the Walker-Gordon Dairy Farm.

Here they were received by the manager and shown first the method by which the milk is immediately cooled down after being taken from the cow. The temperature is reduced from about 90 to 32 degrees. They then visited the beautiful herd of shorthorns in the milking sheds, where the milking was in process. The milkers are required to wear white overalls and caps and to carefully wash their hands. The cows' udders and hind quarters are also washed before milking. As everywhere, the shortage of labour is being felt on the farm, and so far they are not able to secure women skilled in the work. The machinery for milking looked cumbersome, and it was said that it took some time to adjust, but, on the other hand, the four teats are made to yield at the same time by this device. 'Milk sterilised on this farm can, if unopened, be kept for two or three years. A medical man inspects the hands and throats of the employees twice a week.

The extraordinarily interesting Medical Museum arranged by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., in Wigmore Street, was visited by other members of the class, and it was agreed that all nurses and midwives should make a point of seeing this educative exhibit. If they do so once, they will assuredly do so again.

The two parties later on were re-united at tea in the garden at the York Road Hospital.

Dr. Gordon Ley's lecture at the Midwives' Institute was well attended; the subject, "Congenital Disease and Malformation of the Infant," was handled with great clearness and simplicity. Congenital syphilis was first described. The comparatively recent methods of diagnosing this disease make it certain that an infected child has an infected mother. Although there may be no evidence of active disease, her blood gives a positive reaction to the Wassermann test. If she is infected in the last months of pregnancy, or if the disease is in the tertiary stages, the child will probably escape infection; but if she is infected in early pregnancy or the disease is in the secondary stage the child will suffer from

congenital syphilis. The malformations—hare lip, cleft palate, hydrocephaly, spina-bifida, aneocephaly, imperforate anus, phimosi were briefly described. Dr. Gordon Ley is of opinion that no infant is born alive with an imperforate urethra. He thinks that many supposed cases may be accounted for by the habit, which many infants have, of micturating in the bath.

TEST EXAMINATION.

As the result of the Test Examination held at the close of the week, the following prizes were awarded:—

First Prize (value 10s.).—Mrs. Mary Walters (trained at York Road Lying-in Hospital).

Second Prize (value 5s.).—Miss Farley, The Cottage Hospital, Petersfield, Hants.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

Under date June 27th the Privy Council notify in the *Edinburgh Gazette* of June 30th that by virtue of steps taken by the Lord President of the Council in pursuance of Section 3 of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915, the Central Midwives Board for Scotland has been finally constituted as follows:—

| Name of Members. | Appointed by |
|--|--|
| The Lady Balfour of Burleigh, Miss Alice Helen Turnbull, Miss Isabella Scrimgeour. | Lord President of the Council. |
| Sir Archibald Buchan-Hepburn, Bt. | |
| Sir Robert Kirk Inches, Knt. | |
| The Lady Susan Gordon Gilmour. | Association of County Councils for Scotland. |
| Archibald Campbell Munro, Esq., M.B., M.R.C.P., D.Sc. (P.H.) | Convention of the Royal Burghs of Scotland. |
| Professor Sir John Haliday Croom, Knt., M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin., F.R.S. | Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses (Scottish Branch.) |
| Professor Murdoch Cameron, M.D., C.M. | Society of Medical Officers of Health of Scotland. |
| James Haig Ferguson, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin., F.R.C.S., Edin. | University Courts of the Universities of Edinburgh and St Andrews (conjointly). |
| Michael Dewar, Esq., M.D., C.M. | University Courts of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen (conjointly). |
| John Wishart Kerr, Esq., M.B., Ch.B. | Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh; Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; and Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (conjointly). |
| | Scottish Committee of British Medical Association. |

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)