

General Lying-in Hospital.—M. A. Beaven, E. A. Holford, E. K. Pinney, B. N. Tetley.

York Maternity Hospital.—M. Boston.

Belfast Union Maternity Hospital.—J. Catherwood.

Kensington Union Infirmary.—S. Coakley, J. Usher.

Nottingham Workhouse Infirmary.—H. Conneley, T. A. P. Thomas.

East End Mothers' Home.—E. N. Gostling, E. M. Jolliff, H. Moss, L. R. Moss, J. Passey, E. E. M. Wright.

Salvation Army Mothers' Hospital.—A. R. F. Lawrence.

Royal Derby and Derbyshire Nursing Association.—M. J. Mackenzie.

Birmingham Maternity Hospital.—E. J. Price, G. D. Taylor.

Birkenhead Maternity Hospital.—M. U. Robinson.

Fulham Midwifery School.—J. C. Sampson, A. Sexton, E. M. Stiles.

Leeds Maternity Hospital.—A. O. Sharp.

Norwich Maternity Institute.—D. Grimble and D. Watson.

ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

The annual gathering of midwives of this Association took place at Cam House, Campden Hill, by kind permission of Lady Phillimore, on Wednesday, July 5th, at 3 p.m.

Mrs. Wilton Phipps occupied the chair and welcomed the assembled midwives, some of whom had come from a distance. She then called upon Miss Lucy Robinson to give an address. In urging the great importance of the care of the expectant mother—ante-natal—and that of the child—post-natal—she said: "Never in the history of our land has your work mattered as much as at present." The waste of male life through this devastating war has been so great that it is more than ever necessary to give the very best attention and care to the rearing of the new generation. The speaker did not consider that we had yet solved the problem of infant mortality, and emphasised the importance of acquiring more knowledge of the subject. She pointed out that the death rate during the first year of life, was about the same in all classes. This was the critical age of the tender little life, for whose preservation so much knowledge and understanding were necessary.

The badge of the Association, bearing the words "Mercy, Pity, Truth and Love," was presented to the following midwives by Lady Phillimore:—

Midwife Eveline Bould, working under the Derbyshire Nursing Association; Midwives Mary Anne Brown and Effie Clifton, working under the Oxfordshire Nursing Federation; Midwife Charlotte Reeves, working under the Sussex Nursing Association, and the following who are working independently:—Midwives Florence Croft (Chase Terrace), Esther Emery (Sevenoaks); Charlotte

Hall (Walsall), Mary Anne Keay (Bloxwich), Eva Lee (Stockton-on-Tees), Alice Porter (Hanley), Sarah Anne Ridgway (Goole), Lily Rowe (Exeter).

After the presentation Lady Phillimore said a few words about the missionary aspect of the work. The coming of the trained midwives had had, she remarked, a great civilising effect upon rough districts.

LECTURES TO MIDWIVES.

Dr. H. J. F. Simson, in the second of his lectures to midwives in the course arranged by the L.C.C. at West London Hospital, Hammer-smith, said that it was his intention to confine his lectures to obstetrical subjects, and therefore the lecture announced "Venereal Diseases" would be substituted by one on "Modern Developments in the Management of Labour."

In obstetrical practice, he said, it was the unknown that was feared. Every precaution must be taken against infection, and slight abnormalities recognised in time and put right—"A stitch in time saves nine." With this in view every primipara should be seen at the seventh and again at the eighth month. Multiparæ should also be seen at these periods if they have had any previous abnormal pregnancies. This should be an absolute rule.

Speaking of twilight sleep, he said it was absolutely useless to give the injection unless early in the first stage. It was a perfectly safe treatment, though there might be a little difficulty in resuscitating the child. It had a curious effect on the patient, whose memory became a blank while she appeared perfectly conscious, and she had afterwards no recollection of pain. Where the perinæum required to be stitched he advocated this being done before the expulsion of the placenta.

HOME FOR BELGIAN BABIES.

The Home for Belgian Babies which was recently opened at 159, Cromwell Road, S.W., is now in full working order. At present there are nineteen infants, and another ward furnished with cots is ready to receive more.

They are all under two years old, "with no language (at present) but a cry." On the occasion of our visit one small person was making its protest at the injustice of its banishment at the top of its voice. The rooms are lofty and airy, and are furnished in a business-like manner. Charts with prescriptions above the cots testified to the regular visits of a doctor who we learned, is a lady. The nursing staff consists of five. They are provided with a cheerful sitting room, though we can well believe that there is very little time to enjoy it.

Such young infants as were some of them need great vigilance and unremitting care, and it is always something of a triumph to pilot any of them through the first critical months of their lives where any number are nursed together.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)