

He described the process by which nature provided for the coagulation of blood in the uterus, thus preventing serious hæmorrhage in normal cases from the action of the trophoblast, which, while it ate into the mother's tissues, also provided for coagulation.

Dr. Fairbairn's lecture followed close on that of Professor Keith. His subject was "Difficulties of the Breech."

He first described the difficulties of extended legs, and showed how they acted as a splint stiffening the whole body.

It was important to diagnose this condition early; while it was fairly high up there was no risk to the child while sending for assistance; while if it were low down (what was known as impacted breech), it would be impossible for a midwife to deliver the woman.

He then described the method by which extended arms could be brought down, and said that a midwife in these cases had to act promptly.

Many of these infants were born in an asphyxiated condition. There was a good deal said on the difference between blue and white asphyxia. He held that if there was any difficulty in getting the child to breathe, it was a case of white asphyxia. He illustrated the condition by likening it to anæsthesia of chloroform. In blue asphyxia, reflexes were present; in white, they were absent. In the latter condition there would be a certain amount of floppiness in the child which also corresponded with complete anæsthesia.

THURSDAY, MAY 24TH.

On Thursday morning the Demonstration in the Milk Kitchen, by Sister French, attracted a large and interested audience; and in the Lecture Hall Sister Olive gave a practical demonstration on Urine Testing, afterwards showing some of the Museum specimens to visitors present and introducing them, in one of the wards, to the tiny baby in a tent—a method much preferred to using an incubator.

On Thursday afternoon a large party attended Dr. Eric Pritchard's clinic; he gave a short and very practical talk on the inheritance of the child, and on the care of the baby during the first ten days; other parties went to the Burroughs & Wellcome Medical Museum—where Mr. Thompson, the Curator, kindly conducted the midwives to the sections likely to interest them—and to the Sanitary Institute. This museum, for the time, like many others, seems rather at a standstill, but enough was seen to make one realize that a sanitary inspector's or health visitor's certificate are valuable assets to the midwife—gulleys, traps, drains, ventilators, &c., may sound dull, but the variety and ingenuity of many of the sanitary appliances make the course attractive. In the evening, Sister Olive gave a lecture on "Simple Aids in the Teaching of Midwifery"—some original models and diagrams served to illustrate the points; as several teachers of practical midwifery were present, it was a useful theme. Those who were not teachers discovered that some of the

puzzling obscurities in midwifery became clear when simply demonstrated.

THE EXAMINATION.

The following is the examination paper set on Friday, May 25th:—

1. Describe briefly the uterus, and its contents at the fifth month of pregnancy. What may lead to the expulsion of the ovum at this time?

2. What are the devices of nature to check hæmorrhage?

3. What are the difficulties which attend the early stages of breast feeding, and how may they be overcome?

4. What importance do you attach to the observation of the urine during pregnancy. State your method of examining the urine.

THE PRIZE WINNERS.

Ten post graduates entered for the test examination. The papers were judged by Dr. Garces, the House Physician.

The first prize (value 10s.) was awarded to Mrs. Newcombe, and the second prizes (value 5s.) to Miss Hope Bell and Miss Bakewell; Miss Heath was commended.

(To be concluded.)

BABY WEEK.

Arrangements for "Baby Week" are now being made in many directions. The following lectures for speakers have been arranged:—

Mrs. H. B. Irving, May 30th, 5.30.—"National Baby Week: Its object, programme, and general policy; what to say to a general audience before and during Baby Week."

Dr. Saleeby, June 1st, 5.30.—"Infant mortality: Causes, prevention, statistics."

Dr. Flora Shepherd, June 4th, 5.30.—"Mothercraft considered as an educational problem for all classes."

Miss Halford, June 6th, 5.30.—"Mothercraft Competition."

Major Darwin, June 8th, 5.30.—"Heredity and Eugenics."

Dr. Fairbairn, June 11th, 5.30.—"Provision for safe birth."

Miss Fitzgerald, June 13th, 6.—"The Health Visitor."

Dr. Murray Leslie, June 15th, 5.30.—"Mothercraft Exhibition."

Mrs. H. B. Irving.—June 18th, 5.30.—"Work of an Infant Welfare Centre."

Dr. Burgess, June 22nd, 5.30.—"The Care of the Infant."

Dr. Kenwood, June 25th, 5.30.—"Milk—its supply and preservation."

Lady Helmsley, June 27th, 5.30.—"Day Nurseries."

The lectures will be given at the Lecture Room, 52, Berners Street, W. Applications for tickets (free) should be made to Miss Elliott, National Baby Week Council, 6, Holles Street, W. 1, a stamped envelope being enclosed for reply.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)