

# The Midwife.

## THE QUEEN'S INTEREST IN THE TRAINING OF MIDWIVES.

The increasing importance and interest in all that concerns mothers and infants is evidenced by the visit of the Queen last week to the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies—of which her Majesty is Patron—where a special point is made of the higher training of midwives. The Queen was received by the Countess of Stamford, Vice-President, Mrs. Parnell, Matron, and Miss Gregory, Hon. Secretary. Her Majesty, who is greatly interested in the training of district midwives for practice among working women, went over the hospital, spoke to all the mothers, and made many enquiries as to the training given, and as to the ante-natal work at the Woolwich Town Hall, which the hospital shares with the Borough Council, and also at the hospital's Clinic in Wood Street, where post-natal care is given.

Some 50 babies born in the Home during the year were assembled in the garden, and the Queen spoke consoling words to one young mother who had heard of her husband's death at the front the day before. Her Majesty also visited the site taken before the war for a National Training School for Midwives. The minimum period of training in the School at present is eight months, preceded by not less than a year in a general hospital.

## CONFERENCES IN NATIONAL BABY WEEK.

An interesting series of Conferences have been arranged in connection with the Child Welfare Exhibition to be held during National Baby Week (July 1st—7th) at the Central Hall, Westminster. The fixtures for the week are arranged as follows:—

JULY 4TH.

“THE PRESENT POSITION OF MIDWIFERY WORK IN URBAN AREAS,” 10.30 a.m.—12 noon.

*Chairman.*—Sir Francis Champneys, Chairman, Central Midwives Board.

*Speaker.*—Dr. Hope, Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool. Subject, “The Co-ordination of the Work of the Midwife, the Health Visitor, and the Maternity Centre.”

The discussion will be opened by Miss Gregory, head of the Mothers' and Babies'

Home, Woolwich, who will deal with the subject from the point of view of the training of Midwives.

2.30—4 p.m.

“RURAL MIDWIFERY AND SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR MIDWIFERY SERVICE.”

*Chairman.*—Sir Robert Morant, K.C.B.

*Speakers.*—Miss Burnside, Inspector of Midwives, &c., under the Hertfordshire County Council, “Rural Midwifery”; Dr. Janet Lane-Clayton, Dean of the Household and Social Science Department, University of London (King's College for Women, Campden Hill Road, W. 8), “Suggested Improvements for the Midwifery Service,” to be followed by a discussion.

JULY 5TH.

10—12 noon.

“THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGITIMACY.”

*Speakers.*—Mrs. Creighton, Judge Henry Neil, of Chicago, U.S.A.

2.30—4 p.m.

“THE CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.”

*Speakers.*—Mrs. Bramwell Booth, of the Salvation Army; Mrs. Wood, of the London War Pensions Committee, on “The Future of Unmarried Wives.”

The discussion following will be opened by Mrs. Somers Ellis, of Gerrard's Cross.

JULY 6TH.

10.30 a.m.—12 noon.

“YOUNG CHILDREN UNDER THE POOR LAW.”

*Chairman.*—A. V. Symonds, Esq., C.B., Head of the Poor Law Department of the Local Government Board.

*Speakers.*—F. Norris, Esq., Chairman of the St. Marylebone Board of Guardians; Lady Nott-Bower, Member of the Board of Guardians, Richmond Union.

The discussion will be opened by Miss Evelyn Fox, of the Association for the Care of the Mentally Defective.

2.30—4 p.m.

“SOCIAL ORGANISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD WELFARE WORK.”

*Chairman.*—The Countess Ferrers.

*Speakers.*—Dr. Gray, of the Stepney Schools for Mothers; Robert Parr, Esq., Director of the N.S.P.C.C.

Admission to these Conferences is free

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