

The Midwife.

THE ROTUNDA HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.

At their last monthly meeting the Governors of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, had under consideration the Pupil Midwives fees. They arrived at the decision that in future the fees for untrained women, for six months' training, will be twenty-five guineas, and for the reduced course of four months for trained nurses it will be twenty-one guineas. Board and laundry are included in both cases.

The training school in midwifery at the Rotunda Hospital is one of the most famous in the world.

THE EAST END MOTHERS' LYING-IN HOME.

Dr. Owen Lankester again presided at the Annual Meeting of the East End Mothers' Lying-in Home, which took place at 396, Commercial Road, on Wednesday, April 17th. In spite of most inclement weather, the meeting was well attended, and the cordial welcome extended to the visitors by Miss Anderson and the members of the Committee compensated in very great measure for the uncomfortable conditions of a trip to Stepney on a wet and muddy day.

The Hon. Lady Norman spoke at some length of the excellent work which the Home is doing amongst the mothers and babies of East London, and pointed out that the value of the Home as a Training School could not be over-estimated, for it is the national aim and object at present to save the babies and, as a large percentage of confinements are now attended by Midwives, we cannot hope to achieve that object unless we can maintain a supply of efficient, conscientious, carefully trained Midwives. Lady Norman went on to give some startling statistics concerning the loss of life and suffering amongst mothers and babies in times past—or at least in times passing—and compared these statistics with those of the Home, very much to the credit of the Home.

Dr Batty Shaw, in a very happy little speech, expressed the pleasure it gave him to be there that afternoon. His first acquaintance with the East End Mothers' Home was two years ago, when he was sent to report on the work for King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. On that occasion he had come prepared to find fault with anything and everything, but, although he tried very hard, he absolutely failed to find any flaw in the administration or working of this ideal Institution. One thing which struck him forcibly was the feeling of "home." Directly one entered the door one felt at home and not at all an outsider. This is echoed by the mothers, for they always speak of "our" Matron and "our" Home. Lady Norman had

quoted the remark made by one mother: "I have been in the Home three times, but I have never received any charity." This he thought was an excellent testimonial to the way the patients were treated.

Lady Norman proposed a resolution that the Home deserved wider financial support for the excellent work it is carrying on. Dr. Batty Shaw seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Escott Bloss, in proposing a vote of thanks to Dr. Lankester, said that although he (Mr. Bloss) was comparatively a new-comer, he was quite in accord with all that had been said by Dr. Batty Shaw, and he thought the kindness, courtesy and efficiency of the Home was well expressed in the Chairman. Dr. Lankester modestly disclaimed any of the credit, which he said was entirely due to Miss Anderson and Dr. Corner.

At the close of the meeting a "war time" tea was provided, after which the visitors were invited to inspect the wards, which is always such a pleasant feature of this Annual Meeting.

The wards were so bright and pretty, the mothers so happy and the babies so delightful that one came away regretfully, feeling what all the speakers had said was more than justified, and sharing the opinion of one mother who has been in eight times, that "there is no plice in London loike our 'Ome."

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S HOSPITAL.

Mr. F. W. Hunt, presiding at the Annual Meeting of Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, Marylebone Road, N.W., on Tuesday, 16th inst., referred to the great work the hospital had done during the war in caring for the wives of our soldiers and sailors, over 5,000 of whom had been received into the hospital or attended in their own homes. Nearly 2,000 patients had been admitted to the wards and over 1,500 attended at home during the past year. The Queen had shown her appreciation of the work of the hospital by sending a special Christmas donation of £10. The work of the Ante-Natal Department had increased considerably—the number of patients attending amounting to 3,368, and the number of examinations and interviews by the Medical Officers being 6,939. A very successful Infant Consultation Centre had also been opened, with an average attendance of twenty-five per session. The great value of the work of these two departments could hardly be over-estimated, and the Local Government Board had recognized its value by making grants under its Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. Considerable difficulties had been experienced in carrying on the hospital. High prices for all requirements had involved a considerable increase

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