

The Midwife.

THE NAMING OF INFANTS' COTS AT QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S HOSPITAL.

The Committee of Queen Charlotte's Hospital are appealing for contributions for the naming of infants' cots in the hospital, and the appeal has already met with some success. For a gift of £105, the donor may have the right to name a cot, and donations for five cots have so far been received. In some cases they have been given as thank-offerings for the safety of a son during the war.

While during the war the general hospitals have been treating our wounded soldiers and sailors, Queen Charlotte's Hospital has been admitting the wives of our soldiers and sailors, of whom over 5,000 have been received into the wards or attended in their own homes, and many letters have been received from men at the front, expressing their appreciation of what has been done for their wives in their absence.

THE IDEAL HEALTH VISITOR.

By kind permission of the Jewish District Nursing and Sick-Room Help Association, a meeting of the Workers' Section of the Association of Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres, was held on December 4th at 24, Underwood Street, E., the subject under consideration being "The Ideal Health Visitor for Infant Welfare Work, and the Qualifications Necessary." Miss Isabel Macdonald, Secretary of the Royal British Nurses Association, was in the chair.

Miss French, Superintendent of the Loughborough Junction Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, suggested a two years' training which should include six months in a children's hospital, midwifery, six months' social training, and some experience in a welfare centre.

Miss Brownsdon, Matron of the American Welfare Wards, North Islington, advocated the three or four years' hospital training as the basis of qualifications, and said that experience as a school nurse is very valuable.

Miss Elliott, of St. George's House, Cable Street, considered three years' training, plus district midwifery experience, essential.

In the discussion which followed it was generally agreed that nothing but the best is good enough; one speaker said if adequate salaries are paid the best will be forthcoming.

In summing up, Miss Macdonald thanked the speakers and emphasised the view that three years' training in the wards of a hospital should be an essential qualification for anyone holding a responsible position in infant welfare work.

HUNGERING FOR A CHILD.

Interviewed upon the leaving of foundling babies in Hampstead, the clerk to the guardians said that

apart from the trouble it gives, it had brought to light the fact that there are an enormous number of women in England who are absolutely hungering for a child. "It is extraordinary the number who applied to adopt the children," he added.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

At the meeting of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland, held in the offices, 50, George Square, Edinburgh, Sir Halliday Croom in the chair, intimation was made of the appointment of Sir John Lorne MacLeod, as representative of the Convention of Royal Burghs in place of the late Sir Robert Kirk Inches.

PENAL BOARD.

The following are the decisions in the cases of midwives heard before the Penal Board:—

No. 1240. For failing to send the proper form for medical assistance in a case of still-birth, &c.

The midwife was cautioned strictly to observe the rules of the Board, and the local supervising authority was instructed to report to the Board at the end of one month upon her conduct as a midwife, and as to her fitness to take pulse and temperatures.

No. 179. For failing to advise medical assistance in the case of a child suffering from serious skin eruptions and for other breaches of the rules.

The midwife was suspended from practice for one month and the local supervising authority was instructed to report on her ability to take pulse and temperatures before she resumed practice.

No. 1724. For failing to send for medical assistance in a case of ophthalmia neonatorum and for other breaches of the rules.

The Secretary was instructed to remove the name from the Roll of Midwives and to cancel the certificate.

THE MENE ACCOUCHEMENT SETS.

Private nurses and midwives will be glad to have their attention directed to the Mene Accouchement Sets, which are procurable from drapers, ladies outfitters and chemists throughout the country. They are supplied both at 40s. and 20s., and contain mackintosh sheets, accouchement sheets, the dressings and supplies necessary to furnish both mother and infant's basket, and a supply of Mene towels, which are antiseptic, absorbent, and economical, and have the advantage that they can be destroyed by burning.

The Mene Accouchement Sets and Mene Towels are the specialities of Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield, and 168, Old Street, E.C.1.

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