

The Midwife.

HOTELS FOR BABIES.

To day King Baby has come into his own, and the air is full of schemes, wise and otherwise, for his benefit.

One is the opening of two hotels in Clissold Park, Stoke Newington, by the National League for Health, Maternity, and Child Welfare, 5, Tavistock Square, W.C., the result of the grant of £15,000 given by the American Red Cross Society for special maternity and infant welfare work. £1,500 has been allocated to the Babies' Hotels, and the British Red Cross Society have supplied new furniture from their stores.

The hotels are intended for the accommodation of young children in emergencies, as it is affirmed that the war has brought home the fact that it is not always possible for a mother to keep her baby with her.

One hotel is to be for the reception of children of the professional classes, and there will be accommodation for twenty children up to seven years of age. The charge for these children will be one to two guineas a week, and they will be received for a year or more, in cases where the mother has to go abroad, or is, maybe, an actress on tour, or for other reasons cannot be with her child. The education of the children will be provided for by the appointment of a Montessori teacher.

The other hotel will be for children of the working classes, and is to accommodate fifteen children. The charge in this instance is to be 10s. a week. It is intended that the stay of the child shall be limited to one month, and the intention is to provide for the temporary accommodation of children whose mothers may be in hospital, or who have died, and the father has not been able to secure adequate care for the child. Miss Hodges, whose experience of the care of children has been gained at the East London Hospital for Children, will have the assistance of an expert staff. It is not anticipated that this hotel will be self supporting, and donations to its upkeep are solicited. Only healthy children will be received.

It is also proposed to start a babies' convalescent home at Finchley where, in addition to the regular staff, there are to be V.A.B. workers, these letters signifying Voluntary Aid for Babies. We are of opinion that work that is worth doing is worth paying for.

£2,000 is being contributed by the National League for Health and Maternity and Child Welfare to the founding of an American Red Cross Maternity Home Hospital for Lambeth, to be managed by the borough council and their medical staff.

SOUTH-WESTERN POLYTECHNIC.

The course of lectures on "Milk and Milk Products" to be delivered by Mr. Cecil Revis at the South-Western Polytechnic Institute, Manresa Road, Chelsea, S.W.3., begins on Thursday, February 20th, at 7.30 p.m. The course is designed to be of use to nurses, who can hardly know too much about so important an article of diet for sick and well, young and old, as well as to sanitary and food inspectors. The syllabus includes: "The Chief Properties of Milk," "The Sources of Bacteria in Milk," "Milk Production," "The Farm," "Transport," "Distribution," "Pasteurisation," "Properties of Milk Products." Those wishing for further information should apply to the Secretary of the Institute (Room 83).

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following were the questions set at the Examination of the Central Midwives' Board (England) in London and the Provinces on February 4th:—

1. Describe the uterus and its blood supply. Draw a diagram, if you are able.
2. (a) Describe the physiological processes of "Respiration."
(b) A child is born dead after a labour complicated by *Placenta previa*. Describe the colour and general appearance of the child, and give the reasons for its death.
3. What inquiries and observations would you make of a woman who engages you to attend her in her confinement?
4. A woman sends for you on account of hæmorrhage in the seventh month of pregnancy. Explain exactly what you would do.
5. Describe in detail how you would manage a normal breech labour. (The third stage of labour is not included in the question.)
6. What are the duties of the midwife, as laid down by the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, with regard to the care of the eyes of the child?

The need for the strict supervision of boarded out infants was evidenced at an inquest, at Kingston-on-Thames into the death of a baby under two months of age who, with six others, had been under the care of two women. The doctor (Dr. Hobson) who gave evidence as to the emaciated condition of the child, stated that three feeding bottles were found filled with sour milk and covered with dirt, presumably intended for the children. Nine people slept in the one room, which was filthily dirty.

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