

The Midwife.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S HOSPITAL.

One of the most famous maternity hospitals, as well as one of the most famous training schools for midwives and maternity nurses, is Queen Charlotte's Hospital, in the Marylebone Road, London, W., which held its annual meeting at the hospital, on May 1st. Major Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., M.P., presided, and mentioned the serious handicap the hospital had experienced owing to the war. The income from legacies had experienced a sensational fall. In the ten years preceding the war, their average income from legacies had been £2,512, and during the five years of the war only £323 had been received from this source, and their account at the bank was overdrawn to the extent of £10,000.

The hospital has done excellent work for the wives of soldiers and sailors during the war, and 291 were received into the hospital during the past year, while 839 had been attended in their homes.

The Local Government Board has recognized the work done by the hospital, by making grants to its Ante-Natal Department and the Infant Consultation Centre, and it is to be hoped that the public also will support the fine work of this charity to an increasing extent.

CLAPHAM MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL MEETING.

It must be a peculiar pleasure to those who found a great institution (great in the best sense) on a small and unpretentious scale, to watch it grow into the building of their dreams. Dr. Annie McCall and Miss Ritchie, who founded this excellent training school and maternity hospital in 1889 must experience a thrill of happy satisfaction as each annual meeting comes round, bringing with it a rich increase in good work done at 41, Jeffreys Road, Clapham.

On May 6th, the thirtieth annual meeting took place, and the visitor, who had not seen the hospital for some few years, was amazed at its growth and completeness. It was, in fact, beyond recognition. It is now a handsome block of new buildings, consisting of twelve maternity wards, and three labour wards. The chief feature is that it has always maintained the purpose for which it was founded, namely, "for the accommodation of patients of the poorer classes who desire to be attended by doctors of their own sex." The staff consists of Dr. Annie McCall, who is the director and visiting physician and lecturer; Dr. Mary Smith, hon. consulting physician; and Dr. Janet Turnbull, resident assistant physician. The examiners are Dr. M. Smith, Dr. Caroline Sturge, and Dr. Turle Saint. The chair was occupied by

Dr. Helen Webb, who made an earnest appeal for more subscribers. In proposing the adoption of the report, Dr. Saint reminded the audience that she was trained at the hospital, of which she was very proud, and expressed her gratitude to the founders, and spoke with earnestness of the great moral and spiritual influence, which, she says, permeates the hospital; she referred regretfully to the tactlessness and lack of imagination that she had observed in some nurses, in some hospitals; *not* in that hospital, she was careful to add—nurses who made remarks that gave pain to the patients.

Dr. A. McCall informed the audience that it had been decided not to allow visitors to enter the wards. This precautionary measure had been adopted during the influenza epidemic with excellent results to the mothers, and had been continued. We ourselves applaud the decision as being a distinct advantage to the patients. Permission was given, however, to look at the mothers and sweet babes through the glass portion of the door. Bright and charming the wards looked, gay with flowers (especially the *human* flowers!) and red-and-white bed quilts. A great deal of use is made of the roof, where the babies lie in their cots when the weather permits.

After a cordial vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. Sturge and seconded by Miss Ritchie, had been carried with acclamation for the chairman, the guests were hospitably entertained to a generous tea.

B. K.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

EXAMINATION PAPER.

The following are the questions set by the Central Midwives Board for Scotland at the examination of the Board held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee, on April 28th and 29th:—

1. Give the signs and symptoms of an abortion, and state the risks to the woman.
2. How do you make whey? Why is it sometimes desirable to use it in the feeding of the baby?
3. Describe the treatment you would adopt in a case of severe postpartum haemorrhage.
4. Describe the symptoms which usually precede an attack of eclampsia, and give the treatment.
5. A woman, pregnant two or three months, complains of pain and inability to pass urine. What do you think may be wrong? How should she be treated?
6. What are the duties of the midwife, according to the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, if she has been in attendance upon a patient suffering from puerperal fever, or from any other illness supposed to be infectious?

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