

Dr. Hedley's lectures to pupil-midwives were open to the Post-Graduates, and several attended them. Dr. Willett's lecture at the Midwives' Institute was well attended and proved a fitting close to a very enjoyable week.

TEST PAPER.

The Optional Test Paper was taken by eight Post-Graduates. The following questions were set and one hour allowed:—(1) What are the most important difficulties that may be met with in breast-feeding and how would you deal with them? (2) what are the most important causes of ante-natal and intra-natal deaths of the foetus? which of these may be prevented by good ante-natal care? (3) what are the principal factors to be considered in delayed labour? Give the appropriate treatment in each case.

PRIZE-WINNERS.

The following were the prize-winners:—

First Prize (10s.)—Miss Constance Taylor, Lower Kennington Lane, S.E.11.

Second Prize (5s.)—Miss Eleanor Insley, Westbourne Square, W.2.

The standard of the papers was good. Particularly good answers were given to the question on breast feeding.

Both the Matron of the Hospital (Miss Tunbridge) and Sister Coni, who organized the course so successfully are greatly to be congratulated, and the warm thanks of the Post-Graduates were accorded to them.

In addition to the management of the Court and the New Theatres, that of the Alhambra also kindly gave seats for performances.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES' BOARD.

At a special meeting of the Central Midwives Board, held at 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Thursday, May 19th, charges alleged against five women were heard with the following results.

Struck off the Roll and Certificate Cancelled.—Midwives Charlotte Haynes (No. 14,530), Anne Roden (No. 7,931), and Mary Westwood (No. 4,227). They were also prohibited from attending on maternity cases in any capacity.

In two other cases the Board found the charges proved but sentence was postponed, and a report asked for in each case from the Local Supervising Authority in three and six months' time.

THE WEANLING.

Dr. W. E. Nickolls Dunn, writing in the *Lancet* on the subject of "The Weanling," says that the babies of the poor country Arabs in Upper Egypt have no intermediate stage. They receive a slab of coarse wholemeal bread while they are still on the breast, and when weaned many of them get little or no milk because of their parents' poverty.

These children, fed chiefly on the real staff of life—water, raw fruits, and raw vegetables—also with lentil soup, grow into fine men and women with good teeth and powerful jaws. In fourteen years no case of appendicitis, no case of gastric ulcer, no case of cancer either of breast or stomach was seen at the hospital. Dr. Dunn adds: "The Egyptian surgeons inform me that they see a fair number of cases of appendicitis among the children of the rich in Cairo. The country native if promoted to be the servant of a house in Cairo loses his good teeth, though I think that the large amount of raw fruit he still eats tends to prevent their decay. The poor native takes his sugar only in the form of the fibrous cane or in other fruits. What I should like to know is this: How many cases of appendicitis, gastric or duodenal ulcer, and cancer of the stomach arise in those favoured few of our population who have never suffered from dental caries? Surely the first thing is to concentrate on the prevention of dental caries. At any rate it is my firm belief that with the return of sound teeth the diseases above-mentioned will almost disappear." If this is the case there is scope indeed for fine preventive work on the part of nurses and midwives.

THE SALVATION ARMY MOTHERS' HOSPITAL.

The Queen is opening the new Nurses' Home of the Salvation Army Mothers' Hospital, at Clapton, on the afternoon of Thursday, June 2nd. The Hospital is a very busy one, some 1,000 babies being born in its wards each year. The accommodation for patients is at present insufficient and the nurses' quarters quite inadequate. Donations from those wishing to assist the Building Fund should be sent to General Booth, Salvation Army Headquarters, 101, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

CHILD ADOPTION.

The Report of the Committee on Child Adoption appointed by the Home Secretary on August 3rd, 1920, of which Sir Alfred Hopkinson was Chairman, has now been presented to Parliament and published. The Committee were appointed to consider:—

(1) Whether it is desirable to make legal provision for the adoption of children in this country; and (2) if so, what form such provision should take.

The evidence taken by the Committee is grouped under three heads: (1) As to the laws of other countries in which a system of adoption is recognised. (2) As to the conditions now existing in this country, the reasons for a change in the law, the difficulties involved, and the remedies proposed. (3) As to the character and working of judicial tribunals or public authorities which might have to deal with a legal system of adoption if established here.

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