

## The Midwife.

### THE MOTHERCRAFT TRAINING SOCIETY.

#### "POUND DAY."

On Wednesday afternoon, November 29th, the annual "Pound Day" was held at the Mothercraft Training Society at Earl's Court. Unfortunately, the President, H.R.H. Princess Christian, was prevented from coming, but Princess Marie Louise very kindly came instead and received the gifts, which were in many cases presented by babies who had at one time been patients, though their appearance on Wednesday made it difficult to believe that they had ever needed treatment at a Dietetic Hospital.

Lady Galway, the Chairman, welcomed the Princess and thanked her very much for her kindness in coming, and the Princess, in replying, said how very sorry Princess Christian was not to have been able to fulfil her promise to come.

The other members of the Committee present were:—Lady Allen, the Lady Victoria Braithwaite, the Lady Dawson of Penn, Lady Mond, the Lady Sydenham and Dr. and Mrs. Jewesbury.

There was a splendid attendance of friends interested in the work, and after the wards had been visited by the Princess they were thrown open to all who wished to see them, either before or after tea.

The gifts in money and in kind were most generous. The total money received amounted to just over £100 (£100 15s. 9d.), and the value of the goods received amounted to just over £20. The afternoon proved in every way a most successful one, and all connected with the Hospital are deeply grateful for the most splendid response made to this special appeal.

### MISS RAMSDEN MADE A LIFE MEMBER OF THE ROTUNDA LINEN GUILD.

The Rotunda Hospital Linen Guild was inaugurated on December 1st at a meeting of representative Dublin citizens. Mr. William Plunkett Cairns, who was in the chair, said the financial foundation of the Guild was a contribution of £50 given by Miss Ramsden in 1918, to be held in trust until the Guild was formed—a gift warmly appreciated by the Governors. He moved that Miss Ramsden be declared a Life Member of the Linen Guild. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's proposed the formation of the Guild, pointing out the mutual benefits that follow as the result of a wider sympathy with the practical difficulties of keeping up the linen supplies of a large maternity hospital.

Lady Dockrell seconded, and showed the value of many small subscriptions in creating a wide circle of interest and increasing the sphere of usefulness. The amount already collected making

a total of £89, exclusive of Miss Ramsden's gift.

The Rev. Father Hurley, of the Pro-Cathedral, then proposed the Ladies' Committee, with Mrs. Gibbon FitzGibbon as President, seconded by Mr. A. E. Orr.

The Rotunda Hospital Nurses may be congratulated on the success of their united effort to start the Linen Guild, associated as it is with the well-known name of Miss Ramsden as its first Life Member.

### SCARED BABIES.

Miss F. Smith writes in *African Tidings*, a paper published by the Universities Mission to Central Africa, on the subject of "Scared Babies":—

Do you realise in England how very much frightened some of the little children in Africa are when they see a white man or woman?

One day I went to the Women's Hospital and began talking to the patients, when suddenly I heard terrified cries and turned to see four little babies sitting in a row, with their hands full of porridge, all staring hard at me and howling, for they had suddenly stopped in the middle of their eating and had seen me.

Another day we met a little girl, who put on a brave air and greeted us, but we heard terrific cries from a bush near, and on inquiring what was the matter, we were told a younger sister had seen us and was hiding there.

A short time ago a little boy about five years old was brought to the Dispensary with a very bad foot. When I tried to give him medicine to drink, he screamed and kicked and was very afraid. After two days his father said to me, "Bibi, I'd like to have an arrangement with you; please, will you not show your face to my child!" Of course, I was obliged to explain that I could not do his dressing if I did not use my face, but I suggested that they had better hide his face in his mother's carrying cloth, for he was tied on her back. The father thought that a good plan, so the child used to come with his face all hidden up and only his foot showing. By degrees, I found he was peeping just over the cloth through his fingers, and at last one day I had a very great surprise. I was bending over him and the whole of his head popped out, and he laughed and said "Bibi!" We are now great friends. He always comes smiling to the Dispensary, and greets me with all his face showing.

There is another very tiny little girl here, called Lydia, whose father is in hospital. At first she was afraid, but she evidently thought the church was a very good place to begin to make friends, for if her mother sat near me she used to creep along, and just get by the side of me and say "Bibi!" in a whisper. Once outside the church she would run away; but now we are friends outside the church, as well as inside.

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