

# The Midwife.

## REPORTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL SUBJECTS ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

A Memorandum on the Training of Midwives by Miss Janet M. Campbell, M.D., M.S., Senior Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, Ministry of Health, will shortly be issued.

The Memorandum, which is prefaced with a Note by Sir George Newman, deals with the proposed extension of the training period for midwives, the curriculum in the teaching of midwifery, the different agencies through which midwifery training is carried out, the suggested qualifications for teachers of midwifery, the position of "maternity nurses" and "handy women," and the relation of the midwife to the Public Health Service. It is written mainly for the information of Local Supervising Authorities, Training Institutions, Midwives and all concerned in their training, and is supplementary to Miss Campbell's previous Memorandum on the Teaching of Obstetrics and Gynæcology in the Medical Schools (Reports on Public Health and Medical Subjects, No. 15).

### CHILD WELFARE AND HEALTH CAMPAIGN.

#### SOUTH AFRICA SENDS FOR A TRUBY KING NURSE.

Miss Jentie B. Paterson, Truby King nurse, will spend six months in South Africa. During that time she will tour the greater part of the Union, visiting various centres, under the auspices of the Child Welfare Societies of the Union.

Miss Paterson accompanied Dr. Truby King, the Director of Child Welfare in New Zealand, to Central Europe on behalf of the War Victims' Relief Committee, and last year the Minister of Health, New Zealand, arranged for her to accompany the doctor throughout both islands on a lecturing and demonstrating tour, under the auspices of the New Zealand Government and the Plunket Society. As our readers are aware, she is a trained nurse (Guy's Hospital), a certificated midwife, and a member of the Royal Sanitary Institute. She was a lecturer on anatomy and other subjects to the nurses in the training school at Guy's Hospital, and trained as a Truby King nurse at the Training Centre in London, under Dr. Truby King.

She is an able speaker, and, during the tour in New Zealand, lectured to parents, to nurses, to teachers, and to senior school children, on matters

of health and hygiene. A feature is made of lantern-slides, and general talks on health are made interesting to boys and girls. Drawing-room and afternoon meetings for women, for parents, for nurses, for midwives, for women's organizations, and for teachers and students, were arranged.

Meetings for mothers are, perhaps, the most important feature of the campaign, and at these meetings Miss Paterson gives an address and demonstration on mothercraft, followed by a discussion and friendly talk on family matters, with questions and answers.

Meetings for maternity nurses and midwives are also of great importance. The speciality of the Truby King scheme is breast-feeding and infant feeding, and specific advice is available for expectant mothers, and mothers with small babies.

The main aim and ideal of the campaign is to bring about a broad enlightenment and heightened interest in the health and fitness of the whole community—centring attention on mother and child—and on doing the best, physically, mentally and morally, for the rising generation throughout school life.

Miss Paterson's South African visit has the approval and support of the Union Department of Health, and of the Cape Province Education Department, and has been welcomed in other influential quarters. The visit is under the auspices of, and at the invitation of, the Child Welfare Societies of the Union.

An itinerary has been drawn up provisionally. According to present plans she will remain for the month of August in the Cape Peninsula, with headquarters in Capetown, and will visit Johannesburg and the Rand in September. Centres to be visited include Port Elizabeth, which has bespoken her for a fortnight at least, East London, Pretoria, Potchefstroom, Stellenbosch, Bloemfontein, Kroonstad, Kimberley, Maritzburg, Vryheid, Aliwal North and Oudsthoorn.

In Cape Town she gave a series of four special lectures to trained nurses and midwives (European only) and also lectured to coloured midwives.

#### THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM IN NEW ZEALAND.

New Zealand has the lowest infantile death-rate in the world, and it has been still further reduced this year.

America sent over a representative to study the Child Welfare system evolved by Dr. Truby King.

South Africa has sent for a nurse trained by Dr. Truby King himself while in London, and who has been studying his work in New Zealand for the last eighteen months.

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