

"The final result of this year's work is good, as many grateful patients whose lives hung by a thread can testify. Adequate medical assistance has been rendered by night and day, and to this immediate attendance, skill and care we are greatly indebted.

"At times of stress and strain we often think of what Dr. Corner said, who, after he had done everything humanly possible for a patient *in extremis*, was asked by a Sister, 'Can I do anything more, Sir?' Laconically he answered, 'Pray.'"

"The care of the mother begins with the Pre-natal Department and the interest and attendance of the mothers has been augmented during the year under review; 9,613 visits have been paid by the mothers, and the Out-patients' room is usually crowded with cheerful patients . . .

"Our training school continues to prosper. We have done a good year's work as our C.M.B. passes show. Forty Midwives have been trained entirely, besides Lectures and District experience given to thirty-six nurses. The pupils have become so interested in the work that they are meaning to carry it on, so we are able to meet the demand of our nurses to a great extent. Excellent reports of those already practising have been received from all parts of the world.

"Our aim is to send our midwives out into the world with a trained eye to detect, a skilful hand to effect, a quiet capability to deal with emergency, an aseptic conscience; perfect knowledge of the Central Midwives Board rules and an understanding of Social work.

"The gentle mind by gentle deed is known, and although times are hard and 'bawbees' few, our kind friends have seen throughout the year that our poor do not suffer, whatever sacrifice they personally make to ensure this beautiful result . . .

"It would be delightful to enumerate every gift sent quietly and unobtrusively almost as if it were an honour to give, or to extol the endless number of garments made and sent by many Guilds, Societies and work parties, but it cannot be, nor can I write of the comfort and joy such help brings to us, for it is beyond the power of my pen.

"Our babies are clothed in soft white flannel gowns and wrapped in cosy, pretty woollen shawls and are the pride of our hearts and the joy of our lives. The beautiful linen so generously supplied, the furniture to make the Staff more comfortable and the tubs kept filled with sweet flowers all make life more beautiful and easy. . . ."

To Subscribers and helpers the last words of the Report are addressed:

"Our devoted thanks for all you have done and are doing for mothers and babies."

MIDWIFERY BY TEN TEACHERS.*

Under the direction of Comyns Berkeley. M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.C.O.G.

We are very pleased to see a new edition of this very practical and well written treatise for Teachers of Midwifery.

The whole book, which has been revised and brought up to date, is so very well planned, and in its revision we notice an alteration in chapter placement which brings an improvement in the continuity of teaching of the special subject.

The chapter on Ovulation and Development of the Embryo Foetus and its placenta is always well explained, and the diagram and description of the Foetal circulation is very clear and could be easily copied on to any blackboard for demonstration of this difficult subject.

* Published by Messrs. Edward Arnold and Co., 41 and 43, Maddox Street, London, W.1. Price, 18s. nett.

This book deals very thoroughly with the changes in the maternal blood during pregnancy and the effect of these BIO-chemical abnormalities on the general functioning of the whole system.

The effects of past pregnancies are outlined and a well-thought-out Chronological order of Signs and Symptoms of Pregnancy gives all that is required to prove the existence of this normal physiological condition. Ante-natal examination, Hygiene and Care are always to the fore in the teaching of our obstetricians to-day, and past experience has taught us the value of persistence in this great preventive work, and the great decrease in Maternal and Foetal Mortality has been due to the energetic methods outlined in this book both in dealing with Toxæmias and cases of Disproportion.

Abnormal conditions of pregnancy and various treatments for each have been clearly dealt with, and a short summary of Toxic conditions added to these chapters increases its value largely to the teacher. Displacements and abnormal Uterine states, either congenital or acquired through repeated pregnancies, are well illustrated and interesting to read.

A very instructive chapter on Abortions is given which so often is omitted from the midwifery text-book, and we welcome also the outline on abnormal developments of the foetus and the membranes.

It is interesting to note that over 50 per cent. of abortions have been proved to be Pathogenical when microscopical examination has been carried out. The influence of food factors and the need for including in the diet the new-born Vitamin E, brings to the front the latest research work in this direction.

Normal and abnormal pregnancy and labour are set out in a wonderful way and should be the stand-by of all those engaged in teaching these important subjects with all their complications.

We are pleased to see in Puerperal Sepsis the chart demonstrated in the milder form in Femoral Thrombosis, emphasising the importance of watching the patient with a slight rise of temperature.

The infant, its care and feeding, always has its place in this volume and is invaluable.

All operative methods employed are clear and well illustrated, these being such as can be shown to the class and so economise time, as they are the Surgeon's care.

We thank those who have taken the trouble to revise this popular book, and recommend it very strongly to all teachers of the subject.

H. G. B.

LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE MIDWIVES' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Church House, St. Martin's, on Wednesday, April 6th, 1932.

The Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lady Mayoress, Alderman and Mrs. Wilford, were present.

Dr. McMullan presided, and in proposing the Adoption of the Report, said he was pleased to have the opportunity of paying tribute to the work done by the Midwives in the City and County—and to the Lord Mayor for his untiring interest in the Medical and Nursing professions.

Dr. Warner, in seconding the motion, congratulated the members on their Association as an educational help and social opportunity.

Mrs. Noel A. Coward gave an interesting and racy address on "Responsibilities."

The Lord Mayor also addressed the Meeting.

Dr. Cowan and Miss Burt proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to the Speakers.

The Meeting, which was very well attended, concluded with tea.

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