

is seldom followed by the cutting of other teeth before the usual time. At twelve months eight teeth should be present, those in the lower jaw being followed in due course by the corresponding teeth in the upper jaw. Two more teeth usually appear in the upper jaw, one each side of those already cut, followed by others in the lower jaw, but the intervals between the cutting of teeth are most irregular, they may be cut in quick succession for a time and then a long pause may occur. In other cases dentition may have proceeded very slowly for several months, and is completed with unexpected speed by the appearance of the later teeth in quick succession.

The mental development of a child varies even more than the physical growth. Immediately after birth a normal infant shows evidence of tactile temperature and taste sensation, while sight is present within a few hours of birth. A bright light will cause blinking, and a sweet feed be taken vigorously and a sour one refused.

At a month the baby will follow objects with his eyes, and the appearance of the feeding bottle may be received eagerly. At this stage, too, sound is appreciated enough for the child to be disturbed easily by noise, and there should be no difficulty in attracting the attention by noises.

The age at which a child sits, stands or walks is important from the point of view of mental development and also in relation to any physical disorder such as rickets.

A normal infant during the first three months of life when supported in the sitting position, is unable to hold his head up steadily and it tends to fall in one or another direction. At the age of four months many babies can support the head firmly in the erect position. During the first few months no efforts are made to reach with the hand objects shown to the child, these efforts are shown at the age of three to four months, but the co-ordination is very defective, but gradually the hand becomes steadier. By the age of four to five months a healthy child can often reach accurately for what it wants.

At the age of nine months most healthy infants can sit up without support, while at ten months many normal infants can just stand with slight assistance, and at twelve months walking is possible with such slight support as having one hand held.

The development of speech is rather a later process, but at about six months the infant begins to associate names with persons and things, so that he will look towards the object named. At ten months many children use one or two single words.

Thus we see that during the first year of life, the development of a normal infant varies greatly, and is very rapid both physically and mentally.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL, IRISH FREE STATE.

The General Nursing Council of the Irish Free State has decided to publish the Examination Results of Successful Candidates. This is indeed a just decision, and we offer our warmest congratulations both to the Council and to the Registered Nurses of which it is the Governing Body.

The Examination Results held in December last appeared in *The Weekly Irish Times* on Saturday, January 23rd, and very imposing they look, filling as they do a column and a half of the paper.

The set-out is clear, under "Dublin" and "In the Country," following the name of each hospital, the names of their successful students are published. The "Mental Nurses" appear in their own list. Thus it is seen at a glance the results of the teaching in each institution.

The publication of such a list will in our opinion be a

great incentive to teachers and pupils alike, and will be eagerly read by examinees, who quite naturally will note their own names with gratification. It means success after serious study and practical work.

The public will also be impressed with the long list of young nurses who have attained legal status and thus entered upon a life's work of valuable service to the community. Members of the General Nursing Council of the Irish Free State, teachers and pupils, are to be very heartily congratulated on taking the initiative in this long delayed reform. In England and Scotland, the General Nursing Councils will now have to follow the Irish example instead of taking the initiative, as the former might have done at the request of the British College of Nurses in 1934, when a resolution inviting it to take action in the matter was refused.



H.R.H. PRINCE EDWARD OF KENT.

A model infant of whom his Royal Parents are evidently proud.

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