

and so induces analgesia at an earlier stage. Subject to specific safeguards the Board agreed to authorise such a series and in February, 1950, the Board received a summary of the first 210 cases stating:—

“ The Experiment was carried out in 19 districts of this County by 35 midwives, whose midwifery experience ranges from one year to 32 years, and whose experience in the use of Gas and Air Analgesia apparatus ranges from 1-5½ years.

“ The Report deals with the use of the C.M. Attachment in 210 cases, of whom 59 were primiparae and 151 multiparae. Of the multiparae, 72 had previously had Gas and Air Analgesia. Of these, 60 considered the C.M. Attachment to be an improvement on the simple apparatus.

“ The Midwives reported that, in 45 cases, the patients had transient signs or symptoms which might conceivably be attributed to the analgesia, e.g. blueness, lack of co-operation, dizziness or nausea.

“ The 210 confinements resulted in the birth of 214 infants, 213 of whom were born alive, and 211 of whom survived to the 14th day. Of the infants, 192 were quite normal at birth, 13 showed some degree of blueness, and six some delay in crying (one of these is noted as not attributable to analgesia). None of the infants showed any lasting ill-effects.

“ A doctor was actually present at some stage during the confinement of 141 of the total series of cases and, in 106 cases, he reported his impressions of the case. These reports showed that the doctor's opinion of the usefulness of the C.M. Attachment tallied almost invariably with the opinion of the Midwife.”

The 1950 Mothercraft Exhibition.

This year's Mothercraft Exhibition and Conference was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, London, S.W.1, from November 4th to 14th.

Among the many new features of this year's Exhibition was a Fathercraft Cookery Competition, an All-Plastic Nursery, a Hand Loom Weaving Competition and Displays of the latest Maternity Wear by models.

Lectures by famous dieticians, gynaecologists and psychiatrists were given each day in the Conference Hall. There were frequent showings of films dealing with child welfare and household problems.

The object of the Mothercraft Exhibition is to bring to the notice of mothers and all those interested in Child Welfare, the achievements made during the year by science and industry in this important subject.

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