

foot distant; drains under buildings (except outbuildings such as coal place, etc.) not allowed; drain ventilator or soil pipe ventilator to be of 3/16 metal, with caulked lead joints, to terminate 4 feet above eaves and 8 feet away from any window. I am inclined to think that if these points are honestly observed we might with advantage allow scullery sink waste pipe to be untrapped.

"As regards water closets, we insist upon and secure: (1) Approved wash-down type of basin; (2) window, 2 feet by 1 foot; (3) air brick or louver for ventilation, and we treat outside water closets on these points like those inside. Ashpits for new houses are out of date. We have not had a new ashpit built in my district for 12 years. (We have, by the way, abolished over 800 old ones.)

"Sanitary dust bins of about 3 cubic feet capacity, and emptied once or twice a week, are a great improvement on any form of fixed ashpit, and should be insisted upon generally. There are many points in connection with house construction which I have purposely omitted, but I think if the foregoing details were to receive that close personal supervision which their importance demands, we should have a reasonable chance of securing healthy conditions in and around our houses, which would tend towards the realization of a higher standard of public health.

"It may be suggested that some of these things are impossible on economic grounds, but I refuse to believe that the richest country in the world is too poor to afford healthy habitations for her people. We have ample wealth; we have ample producing power. What we need, amongst other things, is a wiser expenditure of national wealth, and I am old-fashioned enough to believe that the provision of clean, healthy and happy homes is one of the first duties of every community which desires to maintain or to establish a high standard of citizenship."

The Mothering Class.

A novel subject of absorbing interest has been added to the curriculum of High Cliff School for Girls, Scarborough, England. It may be called "Mothering, practical and theoretical."

A real live baby has been engaged as the "subject," while a trained nurse from Queen Charlotte Hospital, London, ex-

plains to the pupils the best way to bathe and clothe baby and generally how to be a good mother.

Girls must be 17 or over to enter this class. Eight girls at present take part in the lesson, which may follow such dull subjects as "arithmetic" or "algebra."

Each girl takes her turn in looking after the baby—a plump little girl, aged 13 weeks. They are taught by the nurse the following subjects:

How to bathe baby.

How to cut out and make clothes for her.

How to mix foods.

Scientific feeding and hygiene.

Cooking for the home.

How to detect baby's illnesses.

Every little duty which the careful mother has to attend to in the home is taught the girls by the trained nurse.

They have already learned this valuable "tip" in the art of mothering:

How to tell, by the way baby cries, why it cries and where the trouble is. To distinguish the "teething" cry from the "stomach" cry, the "pin" cry, etc.

Throughout the lessons the subject baby at the High Cliff School, Scarborough, has been a model infant. It is loved by every one.

Women and Public Health.

The important part that women can take in the measures for improving public health, and especially in the reduction of infantile mortality, has been for many years recognized in the appointment of women sanitary inspectors, and in the last few years by the appointment of health visitors and school nurses. The Local Government Officer, England, points out that the appointment of these officers is already authorized in London, and a Bill is now before Parliament to authorize their appointment throughout the country. In order to carry out these duties efficiently special training is required, and many institutions throughout the country have included this work in their curriculum. In London the Royal Sanitary Institute and the National Health Society have been giving systematic training for several years, followed by examinations, and the certificates given by these two societies are specified in the Statutory Rules and Orders issued by the Local Government Board among the qualifications necessary for a health visitor in London.