



SEVEN-MONTHS BABY GETS BACK MESSAGE TO BELCH

**“INCUBATOR ROOMS” SAVE
PREMATURE BABIES’ LIVES**

Of the 125,000 premature babies born each year in the U. S. over 40,000 die within the first year because they are not sufficiently developed to live outside their mothers' bodies. That such mortality is unnecessary has been well demonstrated by the Boston Lying-in Hospital. In its special nursery, premature babies make the transition from womb to outside world in slow, carefully controlled steps.

Thus the 4-lb. baby, whose full-size portrait you see at right, will stay for two months in the hospital's germ-free incubator rooms. Born Feb. 14, eight months after conception, he was rushed from delivery room to premature babies' ward where he will spend a few weeks in a constant temperature of 85° and will be fed mother's milk through a tiny dropper. As the baby puts on weight he goes to a 79° room and is fed through a larger dropper, finally reaching a room where the temperature is normal and where he is allowed to suck at his own bottle.

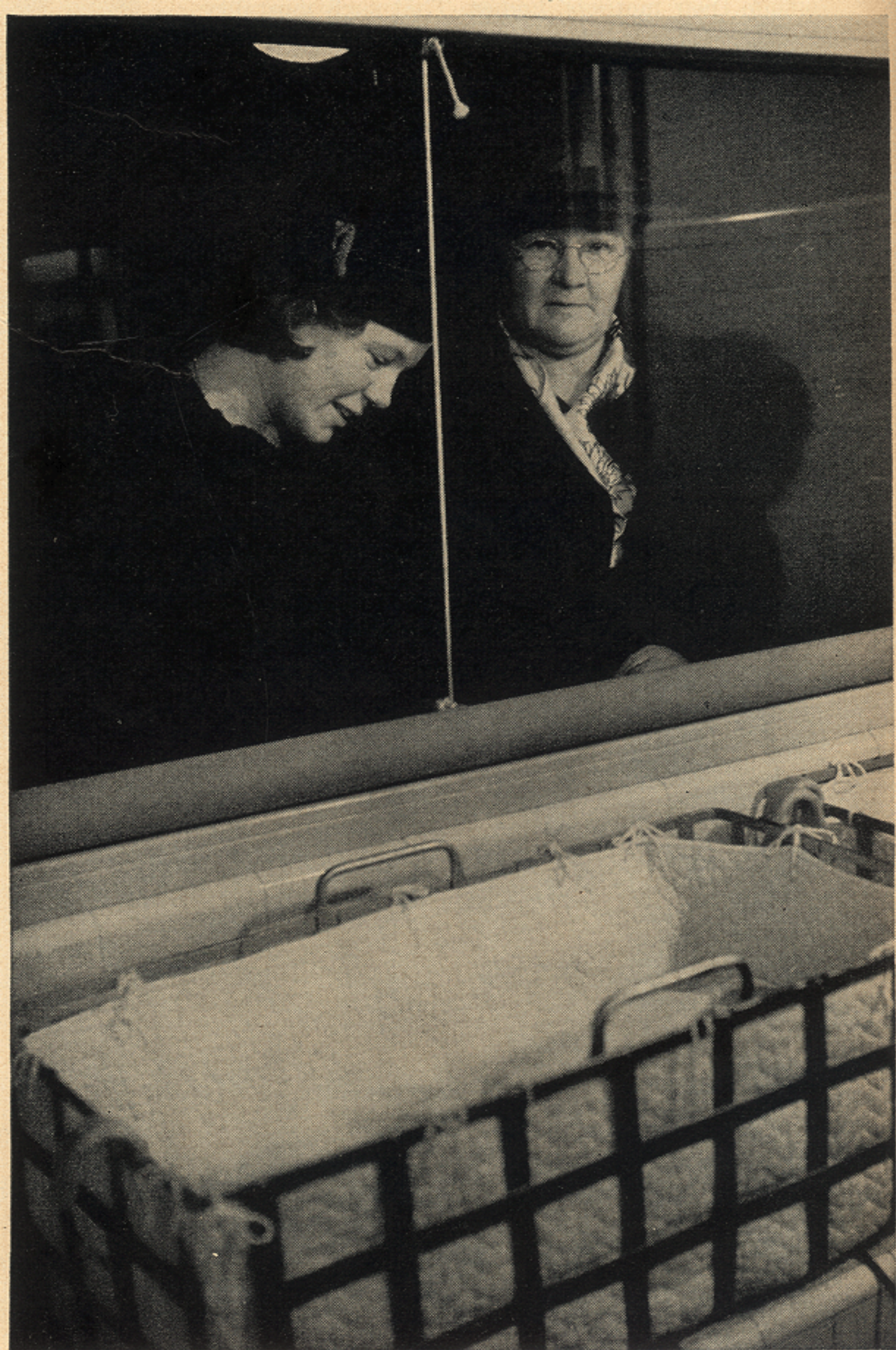
But though this process has saved many lives, doctors at the Boston Lying-in attempt to prevent premature births by instructing mothers in prenatal care.



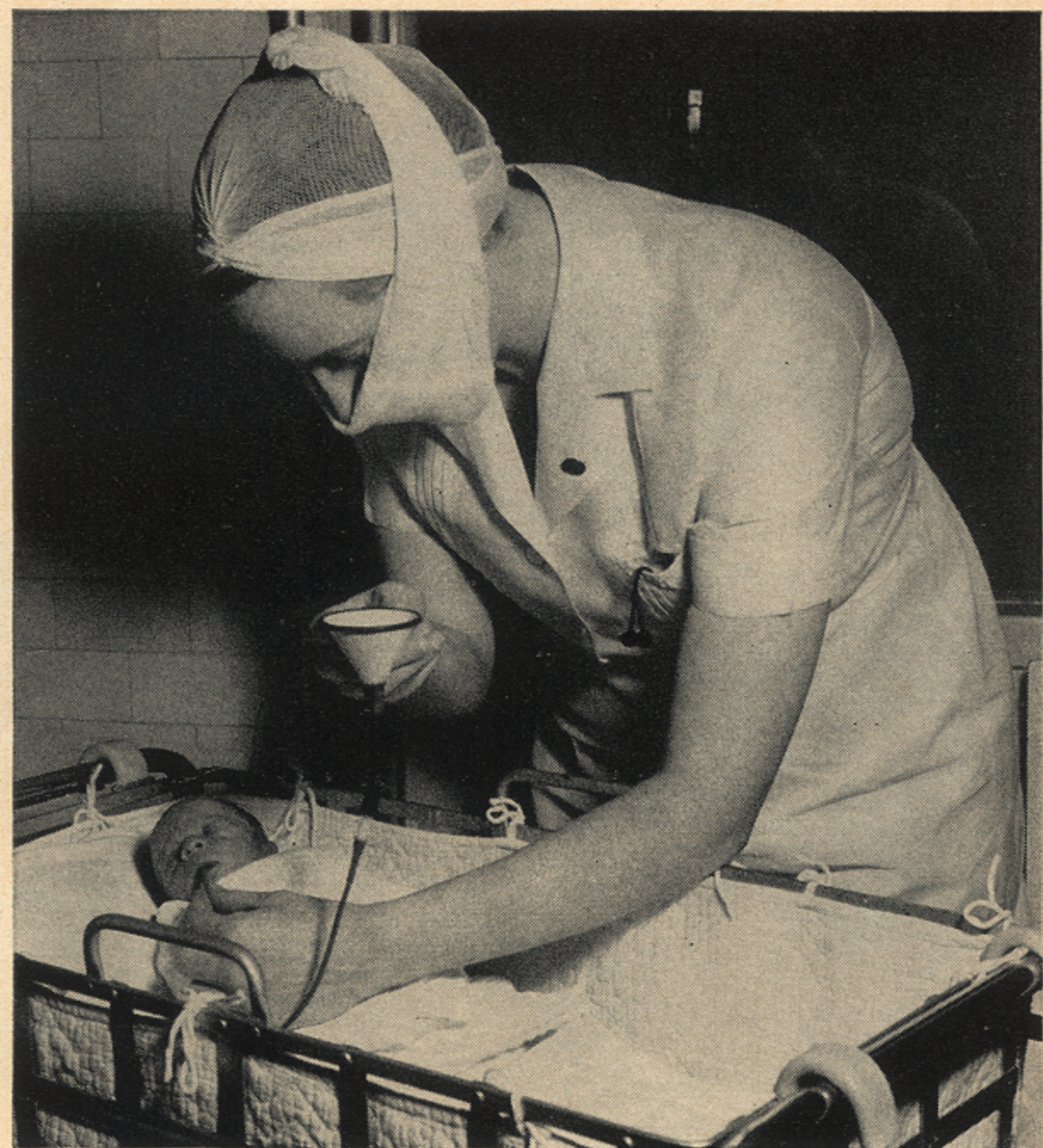
TEN-MINUTE-OLD BABY SWATHED IN COTTON BATTING



NOTE SIZE OF SAFETY PIN



Mothers of premature babies are never allowed inside the nursery, can spend one hour a day fondly gazing at their infants in their cots through a glass partition.



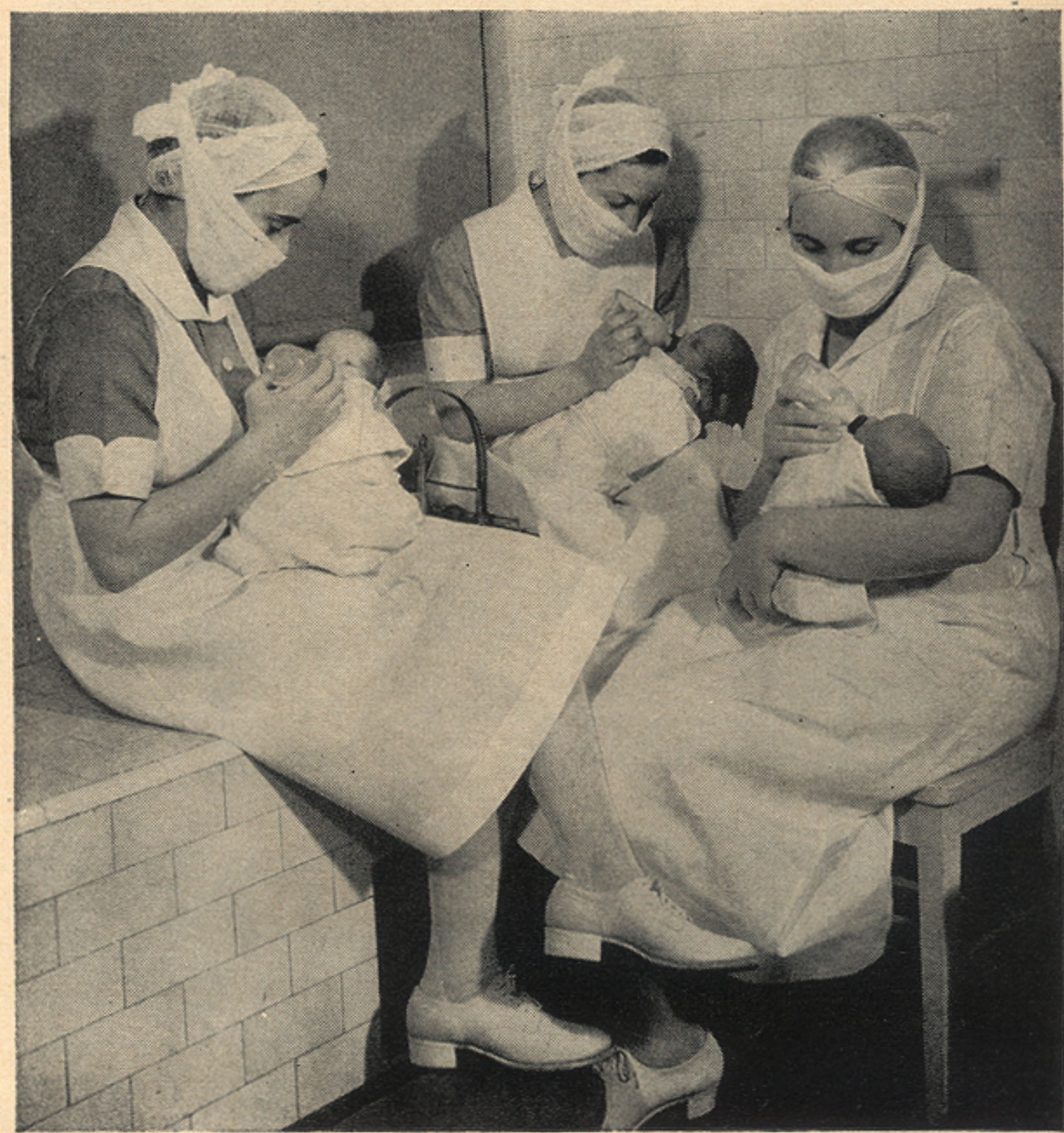
Three-pound babies are fed by placing rubber tube down their throats, pouring the milk through a funnel into the tube. Such feeding conserves the baby's strength.



A medicine dropper is used to feed babies who are too weak to suck a nipple.



Combination bottle-dropper with both a bulb and a nipple teaches baby to nurse.



Fully developed, the premature babies drink from regular bottles containing either mother's milk or formula milk. Nurses always wear masks over mouth and nose.