

DAY-OLD BABY IS SNATCHED FROM HOSPITAL.

She's found safe by police.

A NEWBORN baby snatched from her hospital cot was back in her tearful mother's arms last night. The day-old girl vanished from a side ward after her 23-year-old mother left her alone for 20 minutes.

The distraught mother went home with her husband to wait and hope while a big police search went on. Last night the parents 22 hours of agony ended. Police acting on a tip-off found the baby safe at a house ten miles from the hospital. A 20-year-old single woman was later helping with inquiries.

Detective Superintendent Ken Cook said: "The child has been well cared for. She has been medically examined and is fit and well. But as a precaution, more thorough medical tests are now being carried out."

Police are understood to have discovered a blue carry-cot and other baby equipment at the house. The mother, who has not been named, was with her baby in a single room off the main ward at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton. She returned from a brief visit to the nearby day room to find the child missing. The baby was last seen just before visiting time on Saturday evening. Police with tracker dogs were joined by mounted officers to search the grounds. Frogmen investigated a nearby canal. The baby was found at a house at Dudley, West Midlands. Detective Superintendent Cook said the woman helping with inquiries was not related to the child's family.

QUESTIONS.

1. How old was the baby's mother?
2. Where was the baby found?
3. Explain what happened in about 50 words.
4. Who else helped with inquiries?
5. What do you think about this fact?
6. Vocabulary. Explain the meaning of:

Frogman:

To be related:

Nearby:

Ward:

Fit: