made of the same material; they are generally frilled all round with lace and cambric. For coverlet there is nothing prettier to my mind than the knitted or crochet ones, made of wool by loving hands for the occasion, white or coloured. I do not consider a lower sheet necessary, preferring to let baby lie on the under-blanket, nor do we require any waterproof sheeting to *begin with*—a piece of Southall's absorbent sheeting will be sufficient to keep the bedding dry and baby warm.

There is another appendage to the cot I should advise being obtained beforehand-viz., a small tin foot warmer-or shall we say cot warmer—the same shape in miniature as the one I described to you in a former paper for maternal use; it will have to be made to order. You may ask, Why warm the cot? Because when necessary it is better to raise the temperature of the cot than to crowd clothes upon the infant, for we must remember it is the *baby* that has to warm the clothes to begin with, not the clothes the baby, and in very inclement and cold weather, or under feeble conditions of infantile life, the infant has not sufficient animal heat to spare to maintain the warmth of his body, and if we give artificial heat we come to his assistance in time of need. I have reason to believe that many a frail little life has been preserved by this simple provision, and many and all comforted. It is surprising how infants grow when they are kept warm by artificial heat; it promotes sleep, and food nourishes them better.

(To be continued.)

## THE LICENCE OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

W E have pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the following important leading article, which appeared last week in the leading medical journal of the kingdom—the Lancet. "It is impossible to escape the conviction that in declining to accede to the request of the promoters of the British Institute of Preventive Medicine, the President of the Board of Trade has deliberately sacrificed the legitimate and beneficial aspirations of science at the altar of political expediency. His reply to the overwhelming arguments adduced by Sir JOSEPH LISTER, Sir LYON PLAYFAIR, Professor DEWAR, Professor RAY LANKESTER, and Sir JAMES CRICHTON BROWNE was a striking illustration of the total want of sympathy which our

public men have for scientific objects, in the promotion of which this country is so lamentably behind all other civilised nations of the world including, be it said with regret, some of Great Britain's own colonies. We shall deal presently with the legal aspect of this decision, which, by the way, affects the whole range of associated undertakings in the furtherance of objects unconnected with personal profit to their promoters; but we will first consider what the aims of the proposed Institute really are, and to what extent this refusal of the Board of Trade (supposing it to be insisted on) will affect these objects.

"The projected British Institute of Preventive Medicine would have for its scope the widest field of research that has been opened up to scientific investigation. Our conceptions of the nature of disease have been profoundly influenced by the light shed many years ago through the genius of PASTEUR on the processes of fermentation; and that same root discovery can be applied in untold measure to the whole range of chemistry as well as largely of physiology. Whatever may be the position ultimately assumed by bacteriology, there can be no question as to the practical fruits already reaped from its pursuit, which also promises so much in the future. We believe that this branch of science contains within it the solution of many of the problems of disease, and that the progress of medicine, particularly in respect to the prevention of disease, is indissolubly bound up with its study. But, as was well pointed out by the deputation, the work of such an institute will be by no means limited to bacteriological inquiry and the minimal degree of 'vivisection' that such researches involve. One has only to glance through the records of the Imperial Hygienic Institute at Berlin, or those of the Pasteur Institute at Paris, to learn how much wider is the field that lies open to those who are seeking to benefit humanity in tracking disease to its sources and gaining a clearer insight into the conditions of its spread. It is quite true that, owing to the enlightened spirit of some of our scientific bodies, there do exist certain laboratories in this country where some of these researches are now being carried on, and it may not be out of place to remind the President of the Board of Trade that other Government departments which, unlike his, are more concerned with the well-being of man and animals than with the interests of commercial undertakings, largely avail themselves of the work conducted in these institutions.

"It is not easy to understand the state of mind

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