

A Convalescent Home for Frenchmen is about to be built in Arundel Road, Brighton, and a new road is to be made between Arundel Road and Arundel Street, called Courcel Road, after the French Ambassador, Baron Alphonse de Courcel.

The annual meeting of the Governors of the Barnsley Beckett Hospital was recently held at that institution. Of the cases admitted into the hospital during the year no less than 100 were colliery accidents, which occupied beds for 3,885 days.

Protests are being made in the press against the nuisance of the collections, as now organised, made for the Hospital Saturday Fund. One gentleman states that "a girl attacked him at the bottom of the stairs as he went towards his train, and a lady pounced upon him at the top. Ten feet away he was assailed by another girl, and two lay in wait for him on the platform. Leaving the station he was harassed by 'scouts' in the usual way." A pertinent question is asked by a correspondent in a contemporary, "What guarantee exists that the contents of these money-boxes will be duly handed over to the Hospital Fund?"

On the occasion of his retirement from the Chair of Practical Chemistry in the School of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, Professor John Attfield, F.R.S., was the recipient, on Saturday, at Watford, of a handsome testimonial, consisting of an autograph album and silver plate. The former contained the names of eminent scientific men of England and the Continent.

It is stated that as a result of exhaustive experiments the Cape Town Government is satisfied with the success of Dr. Koch's preventive serum for the rinderpest. It is estimated that if the cattle in the uninfected districts are inoculated, in advance, with the serum, from 90 to 97 per cent. will be saved.

The City of Belfast is to be congratulated on having raised, in six months, the sum of £100,000 for an hospital, to be called the Royal Victoria Commemoration Hospital, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This fact is the more satisfactory, as for once religious differences have been sunk, and the names of Roman Catholic and Protestant donors appear side by side on the same list. The credit of the success of the appeal to the Belfast public is greatly owing, as we have before stated, to the exertions of the Lord and Lady Mayoress. They have both worked indefatigably for the fund, and the result of their efforts must be most gratifying to them.

Twenty-one cases of beri-beri have appeared in the female department of the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, since the beginning of June. Eighteen of these are patients, and three nurses. There are now in the asylum 726 patients above the nominal limits of the original legitimate accommodation. One of the governors remarked that he thought the advice of *Truth* should be taken, and the place burned down.

The various medical authorities who have been consulted with regard to the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, are of opinion that the difficulty with regard to the insanitary condition of this institution, can only be solved by abandoning not only the asylum but the site.

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

A NEW FLOOR-SCRUBBING MACHINE.

A VERY interesting demonstration was given recently at 81, Cannon Street, of a new Scrubbing Machine, that promises to be of great service to hospitals and asylums, where large wards and corridors have to be frequently cleaned. This ingenious machine is easily portable, simple both in design and construction, and is worked by one person as easily and in the same manner as a lawn-mower.

The front part consists of a scrubbing apparatus, which can be raised or lowered at will by a small wheel on the driving handles, with a receptacle above this, in which boiling water, soap and soda, or disinfectants are placed. By depressing a lever the water is turned on and sprinkled on to the floor, and an arrangement of scrubbing brushes, so contrived that the operation is confined to the track—a foot wide—over which the machine is travelling.

Behind the scrubber is a thick matting cloth, which revolves like an endless chain on rollers, constructed so that each part of the cloth is used successively to rub and dry the floor, and then immediately passed through a wringer, cleaned and dried for further use.

In addition to an immense saving of labour effected it is fairly claimed that this machine should commend itself to hospital matrons, on the ground that each part of the floor is scrubbed by *clean, boiling* water, and because it affords such a convenient method of combining the process of cleansing with the application of disinfectants.

The demonstration abundantly proved the efficiency of the apparatus.

PHOENIX FOOD.

OUR attention has recently been drawn to this new Digestive Food. Its analysis shows that it is largely nitrogenous in composition. It has the great advantages of being easily prepared, and of being very palatable. In several instances we have found young children who did not thrive during convalescence on ordinary preparations, took this food well, and gained steadily and considerably in weight while doing so. Invalid adults also have declared a marked preference for this food, and have given the best possible proof that it was both easily digestible and highly nutritious. We feel, therefore, that we can justly commend the preparation to the notice of our readers. It can be obtained through any chemist or grocer, or direct from the Phoenix Food Company, Dublin.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)