

tained, the periodical dance may be considered of therapeutic value to the patients, and as such it may be part of a nurse's duty to carry out this treatment; but, at Bradford, as the Chairman pointed out, "it was not the custom for the nurses to dance with the imbeciles. The dances took place after the imbeciles had retired." We think it is quite time that these junketings, which to our mind are entirely out of place, and subversive of good discipline, should cease. Such, however, is not the opinion of the Bradford Guardians, for by twelve votes to six, they declared themselves in favour of the dances. It is noteworthy that the votes recorded against the measure included those of four lady Guardians (every lady Guardian present, in fact) and a medical man.

Mrs. Moser subsequently gave notice that at the next meeting of the Board she would move that the resolution of the Board, admitting outsiders to the dances, should be rescinded.

BABIES' BOTTLES.

THE Corporation of the City of Buffalo, U.S.A., has taken the strong measure of prohibiting the use of the long tube nursing-bottle, for sanitary reasons. The right of the Corporation to take this step has been questioned, and is now the subject of litigation. At the instance of the city a number of scientific examinations have been made into the effects of long-necked nursing-bottles, and these were recently explained by Dr. Wende, at the meeting of the American Health Association at Ottawa. Dr. Wende stated that the objectionable feature of the bottle is the long rubber tube, which affords lodgment for micro-organisms emanating from decomposed milk. Decomposing material was found in an ordinary tube which, when administered to guinea pigs had killed them in from 48 to 61 hours. After listening to Dr. Wende's paper, the Association unanimously passed a resolution condemning the long-necked bottle, and calling upon all legislative bodies to prohibit its sale and use.

While we consider the use of what is known as the "boat-bottle," far safer, and, therefore, more desirable than that of the long-necked bottle, we must point out that the mouthpiece of the former bottle can convey the same danger as the tube of the other, unless scrupulous cleanliness is enforced with regard to it.

The main points to remember with regard to the care of the bottles of hand-fed infants are:—

The food must never be left in the bottle after the child has finished its meal.

A most pernicious custom is common, of placing the bottle of food in the cot with the child, and letting it take it at intervals. The bottle should always be held while the child is having its food, and when it has had sufficient the bottle should be taken away, and any food remaining in it at once emptied out, instead of being kept in the bottle and warmed again for the next feed. There is no doubt that the necessity for holding the old-fashioned "boat" bottle while the child is taking its meals, is largely responsible for its disuse, but it is one of the strongest points in its favour.

Decomposed milk should never be allowed to be found in a bottle, and will not be so if the following rule is observed.

When a bottle has been used, whether with a mouthpiece, or with a tube, it must always immediately be taken to pieces; the several pieces being carefully cleansed with a small brush, and water must be run through the tubes. After this, it should then be placed, still disjoined, in a basin of cold water, and kept there until it is again required. If it is not so treated, there is no doubt that any bottle is most prejudicial to the health of an infant.

FRIENDS OF THE INFIRM IN MIND.

THE annual meeting of an interesting Society, the Church Guild of Friends of the Infirm in Mind, was held at the Chaplain's House, Colney Hatch, on Tuesday last, under the presidency of the Warden and Chaplain, and moving spirit of the Guild, the Rev. Henry Hawkins, Chaplain of the Colney Hatch Asylum.

The object of the Guild is to further in all ways the interests of the infirm in mind, and amongst the ways of attaining this end, members of the Society undertake to visit friendless patients in Asylums, to correspond with them by post, to find situations for convalescents, to promote convalescent homes for them, and to maintain friendly intercourse with discharged patients. There is, perhaps, no class of persons who need help more than those discharged from lunatic asylums, and the work of the Society is therefore of great value. Particulars will be furnished by the Rev. Henry Hawkins, Chaplain's House, Colney Hatch, to those who may desire them.

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