

instance, do not require the same standard of masseurs that would be required for a fully-developed adult. The standard of individuality for the masseur or masseuse may be thus defined:—

1. Good physique and good health absolutely essential.
2. Cleanliness in every particular is of the greatest importance.
3. An intelligent interest in the patient's welfare.
4. Perfect devotion and zeal in carrying out fully and carefully the duties of the work to the minutest detail, so as to ensure the confidence of the patient.
5. Good temper and forbearance are necessary.
6. Absence of fuss and undue haste.
7. Intelligence and even refinement are advantageous.
8. A happy, cheerful disposition, with vivacity and dexterity, readiness and ability, not forgetting a pleasant and contented face, complete the standard of individuality."

Another axiom laid down is that "You cannot massage unless you are clever with your hands. Of course, massage is made up of manipulations, therefore you should certainly know something about the hand—the hand is a study of the highest physiological, anatomical, and pathological significance."

Sir Charles Bell says:—"The human hand is so beautifully formed, it has so high a sensibility, that sensibility governs its motions so constantly, every effort of the will is answered so instantly, as if the hand itself were the seat of that will; its actions are so powerful, so free, and yet so delicate, that it seems to possess a quality instinct in itself, and there is no thought of its complexity as an instrument or of the relations which make it subservient to the mind: we use it, as we draw our breath, unconsciously, and have lost all recollection of the feeble and ill-directed efforts of its first exercise by which it has been perfected. We ought to define the hand as belonging exclusively to man, corresponding in sensibility and motion with that ingenuity which converts the being who is the weakest in natural defence to the ruler over animate and inanimate Nature."

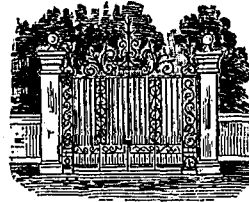
"The perfect hand for massage work," we are told "should be soft, smooth, dry, and fleshy, and of good normal healthy temperature.

"The square hand, with powerful thumb adductors, is usually found most useful; but the following conditions in the nature of the hand are of unquestionable value, namely:—Good muscular power, suppleness, pliability, flexibility, firmness of grip, and compliancy to yield readily, impressibility, smoothness, fineness, warmth, even delicacy. A damp, cold, clammy hand is totally unfit for massage manipulations."

In regard to the lectures on Medical Electricity, they are, says the author, "a necessary addition to the foregoing Lectures on Massage. We find that Massage and Electricity have a combined value; so much is this the case that the best results of massage are frequently dependent upon electricity as an auxiliary. . . . Electricity is one of the most fascinating studies with which the trained mind can be associated, and the study of its action, both from the physical and psychical aspects, is worthy of the most skilful of physicians and surgeons." The book will also be of interest and use to nurses who administer massage and electricity.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



The Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers will be held at Cheltenham and Gloucester, beginning on November 2nd, and many topics of interest will be considered. The annual meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland will take place in the Princess Hall of the Cheltenham Ladies' College on Wednesday, November 4th.

Amongst the most interesting papers will be those on the "Scope and Effect on the Teaching Profession of the Registration of Teachers," by Miss Hurlbatt, of Bedford College, and "The Training of Midwives and the Organisation of their Work in Rural Districts," by Miss Wilson and Miss Gregory, and which will be discussed by Miss Amy Hughes. "Public Health and Sanitary Authorities in Relation to the Rural Population" is also a question of vital importance.

All housewives know the difficulty of getting a really efficient "char" when help is necessary for house-cleaning, but few seem to know of that admirable branch of the Women's Industrial Council's work, the Association of Trained Charwomen, Caretakers, Laundrywomen, Needlewomen, Upholstresses, and Women for Odd Jobs. This Association was founded to help one of the most helpless classes of the community—women who, handicapped by age and lack of training, have in nearly all cases to earn enough to keep themselves, several children, and one or more invalids, and who for that reason are quite unable to stand out for fair wages and fair hours.

The Council gives the women a week's training in actual household work under a trained teacher of domestic economy. On the teacher's report the women are classified according to kinds of work, quality of work, district in which they live, and special circumstances such as that they can or cannot sleep in. They are then given an engagement register in which the rules of the Association are written. This book they take with them, and every employer writes and signs remarks. It forms therefore a series of characters and shows what employment the worker has had and at what wages. As quickly as possible the women are provided with permanent engagements, or certain regular days a week for those who prefer it. According to need, fresh women are admitted and trained. Further information will be given by the Hon. Sec., A.T.C., 19, Buckingham Street, Strand.

We are not surprised to read Miss Margaret Froude's short but vigorous letter to the *Times* to defend the memory of her father against Sir James Crichton-Browne's latest attack that Mr. J. A. Froude was guilty of a breach of trust, and of habitual and deliberate bad faith in his writings on Carlyle. "My father," she says, "was incapable of bad faith, and the person who alleges the contrary is—I use the words

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