

the opposite shoulder. By so doing, the arm will be as close to the body as it is possible to have it. The other external place is the groin, but the lower limbs do not fit closely, and consequently the temperature is not so accurate.

Delirious patients, lunatics and young children, should never have their temperature taken under the tongue, as they are apt to bite the bulb off the thermometer. If a temperature is unusually high, the nurse should always take it again, and stay beside the patient while doing it: so often nervous patients and malingerers play tricks with the thermometer.

Where a separate thermometer is not provided for each patient, a bowl with disinfecting lotion should be at hand, and the thermometer thoroughly cleansed before being used again.

The thermometer must always be shaken below normal before being inserted.

Nurses doing private work should be careful to have a properly tested thermometer: the cheap ones are by no means accurate. It is quite worth the extra money, to buy one which has been tested.

By following these few simple rules, a nurse will make her temperature charts valuable, and she will also be able to follow intelligently the course that the fever symptom takes in each acute illness. Fever is an important symptom, and a neat and accurate temperature chart is valuable. I have sometimes heard doctors say that they placed no reliance on the temperature because the charts were not properly kept. Not because the nurse did not know how to take a temperature, but simply because she would not take a little trouble over it.

It is always worth taking trouble over small things, and those who do know well how to tackle big affairs when they occur.

Reports have been constantly received both by telegram and letter concerning the condition of Sister Obee, British Red Crescent Society, warded with enteric in a very serious form, at the British Seamen's Hospital, Galata, near Constantinople. Her many friends will be relieved to know that her condition is improving, and that there is now hope of her recovery. All that medical science and nursing can do has been done to save her life, which has been seriously imperilled. Sister Wheatley, whose good work has been so much appreciated in Turkey, will soon be returning home. Sister Stewart and Sister Dryhurst have now returned. Since the closing of the St. Stefano Hospital, Sister Warriner has been transferred to refugee work, by request of Colonel Surtees.

THE CARE OF LONDON'S SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Now that the principle of caring for the health as well as of the education of school children is recognized as a national duty it is wonderful what a number of agencies, preventive and remedial, have been brought to bear upon the daily life of the children, with the greatest benefit to their physical, moral, and social wellbeing, a fact which is deeply impressed upon one by a visit to some of the centres where the London County Council, through its teachers, medical officers, and its splendid staff of trained nurses is doing more for the present generation of children than has ever been accomplished or attempted before.

THE OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.

Take, for example, the work done in the open-air schools, as typified by that at Birley House, Forest Hill, where 90 school children, from six to fourteen years of age, suffering from various forms of incipient disease—mostly lung trouble—lead a healthy, happy life from nine in the morning, when County Council trams, which have gathered them up from the slum districts along the river from Battersea to Deptford, deposit them at the door. Before long the school is to be moved to Herne Hill, where its benefits will be extended to 200 children, and even so there are 800 seeking admission whose applications cannot be entertained.

After seeing the work at Birley House, and noting its extraordinary effect in restoring to health children who are below par, one wonders why any school children are cooped up within four walls; why the more robust children are not educated under conditions which must strengthen their constitutions and help to raise a virile race invaluable to the nation in commerce and every branch of public life as well as for national defence.

At Birley House the children are under the direct supervision of a medical officer and a certificated nurse, Miss Barton, a permanent member of the staff, who not only closely supervises the children, but undertakes the house-keeping for this large family, sees that every child is bathed once a week, when underclothing and heads are inspected, and instruction given in the care of the nose, ears, teeth, and nails, &c.

The bathing is done in ordinary bath tubs, for the whole teaching and atmosphere of the school is to inculcate habits which may endure throughout life, and a child who has been accustomed at school to a palatial bathroom

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