

examinations; and (3) the conditions of such examinations; that the rules and regulations adopted by the General Medical Council shall not be recognised as valid until confirmed by the Privy Council, and in the event of the General Medical Council failing to make such rules as the Privy Council can confirm, that the Privy Council be empowered to invite some other medical body to draw up such rules and regulations, or forthwith cause the proposed rules and regulations to be framed for the purposes required, and that such rules shall take effect as if they had been made by the General Medical Council and confirmed by the Privy Council.

It is also recommended that the duty of carrying out locally the provisions of the Act that will be required should be placed in the hands of the County Councils, and that greater facilities for the study of midwifery by those intending to practise the art should be provided in lying-in hospitals and workhouse infirmaries.

A HOSPITALS' EXHIBITION.

WE are pleased to know that it is proposed to hold a Hospitals' Exhibition on a large scale, next year, in London, on the plan followed in previous summer Shows, and that some very able and experienced organizers have undertaken the matter. We understand that the Naval and Military Exhibitions realised a profit of about £60,000, and that it is proposed that the profits of the forthcoming Show shall be divided amongst those Hospitals and Institutions which participate in its work—a fact which all who deplore the evil days upon which our Hospitals have fallen will be cordially pleased to learn. It is reported that Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK has consented to take an active part in the work, and to superintend the organization of the Nursing Section, so that our readers will feel confident that their special department will be an eminent success. Amongst other exhibits, we hear of a proposed model Hospital to be erected in the grounds, and to be equipped with every modern improvement, and which will be, in fact, complete in everything—except patients. We earnestly hope that the Exhibition will not only be as great a popular and financial success as its predecessors—because this seems to be almost assured already—but that it will be the effectual means of reviving and increasing public interest in our Hospitals, and thus of calling attention to the great good which these invaluable Institutions do, and to the great need of funds from which they are at present suffering.

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Obstetric Nursing.

— BY OBSTETRICA, M.R.B.N.A. —

PART II.—INFANTILE.

CHAPTER IX.—CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS.

(Continued from page 56.)

At their completion, this Course of Lectures will be published as one of the Series of "Nursing Record Text Books and Manuals."

AS a passing reflection, we know that both brain and bone contain a mineral constituent. In the former it is Phosphorus—the Light-bearer—the most *unstable* of elements, the pabulum of every thought, word, and deed of the busy brain. The one structure is characterised by *stability* and strength; the other by ceaseless activity and *waste*, demanding incessant renewal and repair. But bone, like brain, must be *fed*. The splay foot, the bow legs, the knock knees, the ungainly gait may result from crass ignorance in the matter of *bone nutrition*, as well as from "heredity" or "diathesis."

In feeding infants the value of barley must not be overlooked. All the cereals contain a mineral or bone-forming element. I have told you in a former paper how to prepare barley-water; but in this case it must be thickened by *prolonged* boiling so as to form, on cooling, a sort of jelly; and this can be added in suitable quantities, in lieu of water, to the "feeds" in hand-fed infants, or given with or without milk as a change feed in suckling infants, and nursing mothers should *daily* partake of farinaceous substances in *addition* to their ordinary diet. My patients are continually asking me about this or the other artificial food (?) for their babies, and I have one set reply to all inquiries on the subject: "Take the foods yourself, and then you can judge as to how far they will suit baby—pre-digest them for him." Salt or chloride of sodium is an important mineral element in food, and a small pinch should be added to baby's feeds; or, if breast-fed, the mother should take more salt with her food than under ordinary circumstances. For babies, I rather prefer the purified and crystallised salt; about twenty grains at a time will suffice.

We must now return to our subject—congenital malformation of the feet. The two most frequent forms are known to surgeons as talipes varus and

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)