circumstances by the kidneys. Still it is unscientific to attempt to argue that anything is impossible in the progress of a case of puerperal fever. To some extent, the conclusions of the author of the paper in question coincide with the experience of many physicians who, as a matter of routine, place patients who seem likely to suffer, or who are suffering, from puerperal mischief upon a diet of milk alone. An interesting feature of this paper is that the author proves that at any rate in cases under his care, perseverance with the use of milk—even although albumen persisted in the urine, and ædema of the legs continued—apparently prevented more severe manifestations of puerperal disease; and it is an undoubted fact, which seems unlikely to be a mere coincidence, that patients to whom the milk treatment has been given have been free from puerperal convulsions until the diet was discontinued, and that then they were attacked by well marked fits.

JAN. 16, 1897]

MUMPS.

THIS disease is usually looked upon only as one of the troublesome complaints of childhood; but it has for long been known to be closely associated with diseases of the ovaries and other organs; and it is also a well known fact that an attack of mumps may be suddenly replaced by a severe attack of inflammation of one or both ovaries. Two well marked cases have been published recently in an American medical journal, which have given novel evidence of this connection between the parotid gland and the ovary. In the first case, a girl, aged 17, had both ovaries removed for disease, and the right parotid gland became swollen and inflamed on the second day; no suppuration occurred, and she eventually did well. The second patient was 32 years of age, and ovariotomy was performed for cystic disease; one parotid became inflamed upon the fourth day, but the swelling passed off within the week. On the 17th day after the operation, the gland again became swollen and brawny, and four days later an abscess in it was opened, and the patient finally recovered. This condition is comparatively rare, but these cases should suffice to put a Nurse attending upon a case of ovariotomy on her guard, and make her at once report to the doctor if her patient complained of any stiffness, swelling, or pain in either side of the face.

Annotations.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

In consequence of the numerous applications which have been received by the Prince of Wales for guidance as to the selection of the most fitting scheme by which the 6oth anniversary of the Queen's accession might be celebrated, his Royal Highness desires to intimate that Her Majesty still adheres to the decision already announced, to refrain from expressing an opinion upon any proposals for doing honour to herself. His Royal Highness is, however, confident that the Queen will readily appreciate any undertakings to celebrate this event which may be the outcome of the wish of her people, whether generally or locally expressed. He feels assured that in considering the various sugtions due support will be given to works of mercy among the sick and suffering, and to anything which may tend to brighten the lives and ameliorate the condition of Her Majesty's poorer subjects.

A CENTRAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

A GENERAL Committee, consisting of gentlemen who approve of the proposal to establish a Central Hospital Board for London, has been formed in connection with the Charity Organisation Society, on lines it is stated that will ensure fair representation of the medical and lay supporters of medical charities. The main objects of this Board are the preservation of the voluntary system of medical relief, and the assistance of voluntary charities by a common fund, to be derived from various sources, such as special subscriptions from the Civic Authorities, "foundation grants" from City Companies, legacies, bequests, and an annual grant from the funds at the disposal of the City Parochial Foundation. Should such a Board ultimately become active it is probable that the Nursing interests might become involved, and it is therefore of importance to Nurses that they should be efficiently represented on such a body. At present the Nursing department is not represented, but there is nothing in the suggested constitution to prevent the representative of a Hospital being a woman. It is to be hoped this point will be duly considered by the General Committee, which is to meet shortly to discuss the scheme.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE, SCOTTISH BRANCH.

WE have received the Eighth Annual Report of this Institution, the work of which is steadily increasing. We note with satisfaction that Queen's Nurses in Scotland are required to previous page next page