

says, "It is impossible to believe that an abuse so mercilessly exposed, and so vigorously and so unanimously condemned—an abuse at which humanity itself revolts—can be maintained." We are of the same opinion; radical reforms must come, and the sooner they are made, the better for the credit of all responsible for the present disgraceful conditions.

#### AUTRES GENS, AUTRES MŒURS.

IN the past, a neat out-door uniform dress was designed for nurses—to be worn when out of doors—more especially for those nurses working in districts. It usually consisted of a neat close little bonnet, with white cap and strings, a long circular cloak of dark material, which thoroughly enveloped the gown beneath, and spotless cuffs and collars. This dress answered its purpose admirably, being at once neat, simple and unobtrusive.

*Autres gens, autres mœurs!* What do we find to-day. Numbers of women in our streets in *outré* jaunty costume, with but faint resemblance to the tidy uniform of old. We have observed the "smart" type—a bonnet resembling a monster butterfly on the wing, resting on a friz of baby curls, a cloak of fly-away cut, gaudily lined, and, well-exposed to view, a white apron, very tight waist-band, to which is attached innumerable jingling charms; the skirt is worn very short, and open-work stockings and high-heeled, narrow-toed tan shoes complete the costume—a bizarre caricature of all that a true nurse should look and be.

A second type is even worse, because it presents to us a slovenly figure, wearing a dusty, "sat-upon" bonnet, bedraggled, unbrushed cloak, dirty apron and down-trodden shoes. These types are to be met by dozens in the West-end every day, and are deplorably degenerate when compared to the trim and tidy Quaker-like nurse of a past decade.

#### Appointment.

MISS GEORGINA H. SKED has been appointed, out of twenty-one candidates, to fill the post of assistant-matron at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. Miss Sked had one year's training at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, and for the last four years she has been connected with the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, where she has since held the positions of staff nurse, theatre staff nurse, and sister.

#### Cow's Milk in Infant Feeding.\*

BY WALTER G. MURPHY, M.D.

(Continued from page 64.)

LEHMAN has noticed that when women's milk is tested after standing some time the curd was heavier and more solid than when precipitated immediately after being drawn from the breast. Cow's milk twenty-four hours old will react to less acid and more quickly than new milk. Milk curdles more quickly and the curd is heavier when acid is added quickly than when the same quantity of acid is added gradually.

Applying these facts to the action of the gastric juice in a child's stomach, I think we are justified in believing a similar precipitate would occur. A milk which has undergone a partial acid fermentation, and is of a decidedly acid reaction, coming in contact with the acid of the stomach, we should expect a tough precipitate, as noticed in the test tube; whereas a perfectly fresh milk, not containing an excess of acid, or a diluted milk when the acid is also diluted, would precipitate a finer and softer curd than would experiment 2.

While we cannot compare absolutely a chemical action in a test tube with the action of the normal secretions in the stomach, I believe it is evident that an excess of acid—that is, the acid of the milk plus the acid secretions—would produce a different chemical action than if the gradually secreted gastric juice alone caused the precipitate. (Dalton.)

From these experiments, then, it would seem that when measures have been employed to lessen the fermentation of milk the curd is entirely different from that of ordinary milk as obtained from the cart, and, further, it will be noticed that when the milk has been aerated immediately after milking, the curd is finer than that of Pasteurised milk, with which the effort is made to check fermentation after it has already begun.

Babies, as a rule, are able to digest a stronger milk in winter, when there are fewer germs, than in summer, and a case seen during the past season illustrates that fact:

\* Read at the semi-annual meeting of the Hartford County Medical Association, Hartford, Conn., April 21st, 1897.

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