

walls. The walls inside though are not so cheerful—one excepted—which has been recently painted, and is extremely picturesque, having pillars down each side, about the distance of the length of the beds from the walls—so that I noticed the servants lounged against them whilst the doctor examined the patients. This best ward is a male one, and holds 18 to 20 beds. The dado is a nice grey-blue, and so are the bed-covers, and the coats of the convalescents, the floor was well cemented (so that disinfection was easy the chief pointed out) and the windows were at a pleasant height, about the level of one's waist, neither too high, nor down to the ground, as is usual (one or other) in most Hospitals.

The other two wards under the Professor are less satisfactory; the small woman's ward with 12 beds, and another male one with 20, both need re-painting, and flooring, and have unsatisfactory windows.

As far as I understand the nursing has been done entirely by the servant-nurses. There being no Sisters even the medicines have to be given by the infermiere. The duties of the two people who "directed," Donna Angelina and Don Ciccio, being seemingly those of housekeeping. To see the others did not rob, to supervise the kitchen and the diets, were, as far as I could see, all that occupied them. The infermiere must have a very easy time in the woman's ward, there are always two on duty, and for several hours in the afternoon there are three. There is a bed kept for one, and they sleep in turns through the night in it, unless there be very heavy cases, when both are supposed to remain on foot. One of them sat and knitted a good deal this morning. Another held the disinfectant whilst a doctor gave hypodermics of the new Magliani serum cure for tuberculosis: and the other crawled around when asked to do anything.

In the male wards it is less possible to do nothing, there were several serious cases (mainly phthisis), and the same number of nurses for 18 or 20, as for the 12 women.

I have settled with the Principessa and the Chief that for the moment it is best not to take the pupil she has found: we are to go on quite without changes at first: meanwhile he has written to Paris for the rules of some training school there, and as soon as he gets the information he wants, he will draw up what he thinks suitable for here, and we can discuss it. He hopes in about a fortnight we may safely begin.

(To be continued).

Preparations, Inventions, etc.

FERRU-COCOA.

For some time past, we have been observing the effects of a new Cocoa, which is receiving cordial commendation from our medical contemporaries. FERRU-COCOA is found on analysis to be composed of pure Kola and Malt, and a small proportion of iron, in conjunction with the purest cocoa bean. It is a well-known fact that iron is found combined not only with various natural waters, but with many of the commoner articles of food; and the combination of the metal with

cocoa is, undoubtedly, a useful and valuable novelty. We have found that patients, who seemed unable to take the ordinary forms of iron, both improved in health and became less anæmic while taking Ferru-Cocoa. It is very palatable and digestible, and both invalids and children take it readily. We can, therefore, cordially recommend it to the attention of nurses, and we believe that they will find it a valuable stimulant, as well as nourishment for themselves, especially when they are engaged upon night duty, or are exhausted by prolonged nursing attendance. It can be obtained direct from the manufacturers, the Ferru-Cocoa Company, 329, Goswell Road, E.C., or through any chemist or grocer.

VIKING MILK.

AMONGST the many brands of condensed milk the "Viking" stands pre-eminent in one particular, because, by a new process of sterilisation, it is not only freed from the contamination of all bacteria, but retains all the essential qualities of a perfectly pure fresh milk without the addition of any sweetening or preservative material. It is, therefore, especially valuable for patients such as those suffering from diabetes, and other complaints, who are forbidden any sweetened food. The Viking milk will keep perfectly pure, for an indefinite period in any climate, so long as the hermetically sealed tin remains unopened; and it is, therefore, invaluable for use on board ship or for invalids in tropical countries. The fact that it is prepared by the well-known firm of Henri Nestlé, who possess a world-wide reputation for the purity and excellence of their preparations, renders it unnecessary to accord it any further praise. It can be obtained from Henri Nestlé, 48, Cannon Street, E.C., or through any chemist or grocer.

FRIPP'S OLIVE OIL SOAP.

WITH the ever-increasing number of soaps, each one strongly recommended for "delicate" skins, the wary, considering discretion the better part of cleanliness, make no alteration from the particular variety they have learnt by experience to be safe. It is, therefore, to the *most* wary that Fripp's Olive Oil Soap can appeal, for it contains a perfectly balanced proportion of alkali and the purest olive oil, and used with warm water produces a most delightful lather, and renders the skin soft and perfumed. For delicate skins it is especially to be commended; and it possesses the extra recommendation of having been satisfactorily used for a century and-a-half. It can be obtained from Messrs. Christopher Thomas and Bros., Ltd., Broad Plain Soap and Candle Works, Bristol; or from any grocer or chemist,

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