

practically unknown. He was enthusiastic as to the results which might be obtained by utilizing the rich mine of facts at their disposal in connection with schools, and by careful comparison of accurate returns.

SANATORIA FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Dr. Scurfield strongly urged the establishment of municipal sanatoria for consumptives, and made out a strong case both as regards the number of cases which it might reasonably be hoped would be cured without relapse, and also because the patients who returned to their homes not permanently cured would have learnt how to dispose of their expectoration so as not to be a danger to their families.

WOMEN HEALTH VISITORS.

Miss Rosetta E. Gardiner, Associate of the Sanitary Institute, and Health Visitor in Birmingham, gave an interesting account of the work accomplished in that city by the ladies who have been appointed by the Birmingham City Council to visit the worst parts of the city, and inculcate the rudiments of hygiene by means of the exercise of friendly sympathy and tact. They do house-to-house visitation as directed by the medical officer of health, direct attention to the evils of bad smells, want of fresh air, and dirty conditions of all kinds, give hints to mothers on feeding and clothing their children, and induce them to send them to school regularly. They also note the general sanitary conditions of the house, the mode of living, the feeding and clothing of infants, and in cases of infectious diseases inquire whether a medical practitioner is in attendance, and how far the necessary sanitary precautions are carried out.

The Health Visitors meet daily at the Health Office to write their report of the previous day's work, and to receive instructions with regard to difficulties in connection with their work after which they visit systematically in their appointed districts, and their work has so far met with encouraging results.

Miss Gardiner demonstrated that the work of health visiting is essentially woman's work, and is, moreover, one of vital importance in maintaining the health of great cities. The object is to instil into the minds of those who, from the hard conditions under which they live, would remain in ignorance of the laws of health and decency—a knowledge of the necessary facts

RATIONAL DRESS.

Lady Harberton's paper urging the adoption of a sensible dress by women was of great interest. Many of those present, while acknowledging the desirability of a bifurcated garment, said that they themselves would not have the temerity to don one.

HYGIENIC OCCUPATIONS.

Mrs. H. Percy Boulnois, in an interesting paper on Hygienic Occupations for Women, said that the number of working women had so greatly increased, that it was becoming necessary to organise and regulate their work. She then gave a list of occupations open to women, and dealt with their effect upon the mental and physical condition. She expressed the opinion that the work of women was most needed as sanitary and factory inspectors. These occupations were not prejudicial to health, but needed a woman of strong physique to undertake them.

Professional Review.

CARVELL'S NURSERY HANDBOOK WITH HINTS.

WE have received a copy of this book, by Mr. J. Maclean Carvell, M.R.C.S., published by Mr. George Barber, 23, Farnival Street, Holborn, price 1s. We must say that the book is a marvel of cheapness at the price, for it is almost sumptuously got up, being bound in dark blue cloth, with gold lettering and decoration and gilt edges. The paper is thick, and the printing excellent. The book is interleaved in order to enable the mother or nurse to make her own notes. It treats of the nursery, its furniture and cleansing, the bath of an infant and older child, and their underclothing. The sleeping arrangements are also considered, and outdoor exercise. The feeding of children from the time of their birth up to two years of age is dealt with, and some useful advice is given as to feeding bottles. Mr. Carvell advocates allowing a crying child a dummy teat or "baby comforter" to suck. "I know I shall incur the censure of some," he says, "but only of those who lack practical experience of a crying child." Well,—we must own to a prejudice against baby comforters, and with all due deference to Mr. Carvell, would say that there is not necessarily any reason to let a child scream because it is not allowed a comforter, it is essentially the suggestion of a man; a woman would have other resources.

The troubles of teething, and how to render first aid in case of convulsions are dealt with. It is always advisable, we are told, whenever a child has a convulsion to get your doctor to see it at the earliest possible time. Most mothers, however, will scarcely need this advice. Registration of birth, the time of freedom from infection in the case of infectious diseases, is dealt with, and then follows an appendix containing recipes for requisites commonly needed in nursery management.

An Addendum contains some hints from a correspondent as to the care of young children in the tropics. The remainder of the book (a considerable portion) is left blank for notes by the mother or nurse, for the information of the doctor, and for the directions given by a medical man.

OUR BABY.

WE have received a copy of the sixth edition of "Our Baby," by Mrs. Langton Hewer, published by John Wright and Co., Bristol. We reviewed this book two years ago when the fifth edition appeared, and have little to add to the remarks we then made, except that if Mrs. Hewer had taken our advice then proffered as to the danger and indefensibility of advising mothers to give young children such drugs as santolin, aconite, and bromide of potassium, she would not have laid herself open to the trenchant remarks made by our contemporary the *Scalpel* on the same subject.

The introduction by the author still makes the announcement that "the medical chapters have been specially written for the book, and the whole has had the advantage of being revised by a London physician." We can only reiterate our surprise previously expressed, that the London physician countenances the prescription of dangerous drugs by the laity, and advise him to use the editorial blue pencil more liberally in revising the next issue.

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