

Sir Redvers Buller shares, with military medicos and Sisters, Lady Sykes' somewhat spiteful antipathy, and when she deprived South Africa of the light of her countenance, "muddling was still rampant," Lord Roberts and Kitchener not having arrived, but we must confess to being in entire sympathy with her following remarks:—"I suppose the whole of these distressing and disheartening arrangements are an exemplification of the old story we have heard so often in India and other distant lands, of a Government department in England attempting to govern a country which none of its members have ever seen, according to the received European opinion, and in defiance of the knowledge and advice of those who have spent their whole lives in the place itself."

E. G. F.

The Medical, Surgical and Hygienic Exhibition.

This exhibition has been on view at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, since Tuesday last, and remains open until the evening of Friday, June 8th. We notice that, in many instances, the same firms have their stands in the same position each year, so that it is becoming comparatively easy to find one's way about. The organisation of an exhibition on so large a scale must involve a large amount of work, but such shows are of great educative value, and the committee are to be congratulated on their enterprise in undertaking it annually.

SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

In these days of constant improvements in surgical appliances, the stands of instrument makers are fascinating to those with any knowledge of surgery. The present instance is no exception, and on the stand of Messrs. John Weiss, of 287, Oxford Street, to be found immediately below the orchestra, there was much of interest to be seen, notably some dissecting forceps made in one piece, and a silver-plated instrument used in the dissection of glands.

On the stands of Messrs. Maw, Son and Thompson (Nos. 65 and 66), of 7, Aldersgate Street, were also many novelties. We were specially interested in some twill cases for surgical instruments, which can be washed, or boiled, and so rendered thoroughly aseptic. These are made large enough to take a complete set of midwifery instruments, and also for small pocket cases; also there was a small aluminium case, small enough to go into the waistcoat pocket yet containing in this compact form all the instruments essential to the performance of minor operations. A hypodermic syringe, having a glass piston would be most useful in tropical countries where the washer of the ordinary syringe so easily gets out of order. We also noticed an evacuator, made after the pattern suggested by Mr. Freyer, of St. Peter's Hospital, which was excellent in its simplicity. Falla's trephine appeared to be a great improvement on the usual pattern as it has no central pin to bring pressure to bear upon the compressed bone already pressing on the brain. A circular piece of bone can be removed by means of this instrument, and pressure is exercised only by the circular saw. Lastly, we must mention a brush for cleaning uterine tubes, a want that has been

felt by nurses for long. Amongst the novelties must be noted an excellent surgical and dental lamp shown by Messrs. W. Watson and Sons, 313, High Holborn, W.C. It should certainly facilitate evening dentistry for by placing this small electric lamp in the mouth, the whole of it is most brilliantly illuminated, other excellent lamps with portable batteries are also to be had from this firm.

On the stand of Messrs. Southall Bros. and Barclay, Limited, of Birmingham (Nos. 34 and 35), we noticed an excellent small silver-plated sterilizer, price 25s., also a portable electric bell with battery and push complete, there was also a first aid case, for hanging on the wall, containing all the requisite dressings, etc.

FOODS.

Of food stuffs there were of course plenty. A novelty is Cheltine, prepared at the Cheltine Works, Cheltenham. It is prepared for infants, for ordinary invalids, and for the anæmic, dyspeptic and diabetic. It is stated to be a concentrated food, and to contain in large proportions all the essential primary elements. Another food was Plasmon, prepared by the Plasmon Syndicate, Limited, 56, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, which claims to be an economical provision of proteid food in a concentrated condition.

The Somatose and Meat Extracts of the British Somatose Company, Limited, 165, Queen Victoria Street (Stand 51) were, of course, on view. Somatose has now made a place for itself high up in the scale of food stuffs. Somatose proper is made from beef and contains nearly 80 per cent. of meat albumen. It has the advantage of being easily soluble in water, milk, soup, etc. A further preparation is Iron Somatose, which adds to the ordinary preparation the tonic qualities of iron. Milk Somatose, on the other hand, contains the albuminous matter of milk, and for this reason is specially valuable for children and infants.

Bovril, Limited, of 152, Old Street, City Road (Stand 79), showed, as usual, their excellent preparations, the emergency rations, as issued to our troops, were specially interesting.

Lemco, the genuine Liebig's Extract of Meat Co. (Stand 99), of 9, Fenchurch Avenue, showed both their Meat Extract, which is too well known to need description, and also Peptarnis, a peptonized preparation of beef, which it is said can be digested by invalids and even infants who can take nothing else.

Virol, Ltd., of 152, Old Street, City Road (Stand 80), is a new food prepared from red bone marrow, extract of malt, new laid eggs, and lemon juice, and is much relished by children.

The Protene Company, Ltd., of 36, Welbeck Street, W. (Stand 9), showed various preparations which have the merit of being exceedingly palatable as well as being manufactured on the most scientific principles.

The Frame Food Company, Limited, of Lombard Road, Battersea (Stand 59), had an attractive stand, showing various preparations. Frame Food Extract is nutritious matter extracted from wheat bran, and contains a large proportion of soluble phosphates and albuminoids.

Cozenza and Co., of 95, Wigmore Street, Cavendish Square (Stand 49) showed their Consommé and Cross Star Soups.

Messrs. Cadbury Bros., of Bournville, near Birmingham, showed their much esteemed cocoa, as well as the preparations made from it. It has the advantage not only of being a most excellent and palatable cocoa, but of containing no extraneous substances.

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