

are to be congratulated on the results attained by the system they have adopted for obtaining a pure milk supply. While the mortality of children under five years of age was in New York in one week of the recent hot weather 600, and in Baltimore over 300, in Rochester it was only 21. Although Rochester is a smaller city than the other two mentioned, still the proportionate mortality is striking.

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AN interesting feature in the Rochester system is that a trained nurse is in absolute charge of the farm where the practical details are carried out, and no milk is allowed to be sent out unless sealed by her. Sterilized milk is extremely indigestible, so the system employed is as follows. The milk, as it is now prepared, is the natural fluid taken from healthful cows under the most cleanly surroundings possible. The stable is hung with sterilized cloth. The cow is covered with a sterilized blanket of cheesecloth. The milker's hands are aseptized, like a surgeon's before an operation. The full pail of warm milk is then covered with an antiseptic cheesecloth top and carried away to another room, where the milk is strained through absorbent cotton and then siphoned into sterilized bottles, containing enough for one feeding of an infant, sealed and sent out for distribution.

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THE position of a Matron in this country is often very difficult, but we may at least be thankful that hospital arrangements in England are not complicated by the political situation. In Cuba, while the Presidency of the United States is still in the balance and upon the issue of the election depends the annexation or autonomy of Cuba, the position of the hospital officials in the island is very precarious. Writing from the General Hospital in Puerto Principii, in that island, Mrs. Quintard, the Superintendent of Nursing, says:—"All our work here is very unsettled. The political situation here is anything but satisfactory at present. Should Cuba receive her independence, the Cubans will naturally wish to govern their own institutions, and we may have to leave at any time. There is a big field for work here, in Puerto Principii, it is the poorest province on the island, although before the war it was one of the richest. Can you imagine a town of 40,000 inhabitants absolutely unable to support a small orphan asylum or even a jail. All institutions here are supported by the province of Havana, and there is so much red tape connected with any scheme for relieving conditions here that one gets discouraged. I do not mind the climate, so far it has not affected me seriously, and I am much interested in the work."

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Camberwell Guardians have decided to extend their infirmary at a cost of £180,000.

The Mercers' Company has given a donation of £21 in aid of the general work of the London Young Women's Christian Association.

Sydney is now free of plague, and clean bills of health have been issued since October 8th.

A conference representing public health and water authorities and master and operative plumbers from all parts of the United Kingdom was last week held at Birmingham. Mr. R. Crawford, of Glasgow, representing the Worshipful Company of Plumbers, presided. A resolution was adopted expressing the desire that a measure should be passed through Parliament to protect the public from the results of bad or incompetent workmanship, and to secure the efficiency and responsibility of plumbers through a system of registration of masters and operatives. The Government was urged to press the matter forward, and a committee was formed to approach the Local Government Board for the framing of a Bill for the registration of plumbers. Will plumbers get their registration before trained nurses? Bad and incompetent workmanship of plumbers is, we know, dangerous to health, but the same fault in nurses is even more deadly.

James Proctor, and John Duncan, attendants at the Glengall Lunatic Asylum, Ayr, have been committed for trial on a charge of causing the death of an inmate, Robert McIntyre, by ill treatment.

When the girl students made their first appearance in Professor Bekefy's lecture room at Budapest University, the male students, resenting what they regard as an intrusion, bellowed, whistled, stamped their feet, and used opprobrious epithets. Many of the girls burst into tears, and would have left the room if some others, more spirited, had not induced them to stay until the professor came. When he arrived, and made an appeal on behalf of the ladies, the students became more furious, and the professor was obliged to abandon all idea of lecturing, at least on that day.

Since then the disgraceful scenes have been repeated, and professors and students combine to make the continued attendance of the women at lectures impossible. The mothers of these students are now entering their names as "extraordinary hearers," in order that they may, in some measure, protect their daughters against insult. We could wish that the students took steps to protect themselves. For one thing the dismissal of any professor who has participated in this disgraceful behaviour should be instantly demanded.

The latest advocate of the consumption of uncooked food is Professor B. Tyler, of Indianapolis. He thinks human life would average three or four times longer than it does if people would reject the senseless practice of cooking their food.

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