

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd. (No. 70), of Bournville, near Birmingham, showed their excellent cocoas and dainty biscuits.

Mention must also be made of the invalid specialities of Messrs. Callard and Co. (No. 74), specialists to the Royal Family, whose excellent foods for the diabetic, the rheumatic, and gouty, and other invalids were on view.

The Hovis Bread Flour Co., Ltd. (No. 100), Macclesfield and London, showed their excellent bread and biscuits, and their new "Lito" self-raising flour.

The Manhu Food Co., Ltd. (No. 87), 88, Charing Cross Road, W.C., showed their diabetic foods, which have been used with excellent results. They are starch-changed, freely soluble, inexpensive, and very palatable.

The Protene Co., Ltd. (No. 9), 36, Welbeck Street, W., showed many attractive preparations. Their Realm Biscuits, an ideal food for vegetarians, should be noted.

The Cheltine Foods, Ltd. (No. 78 and 85), of the Cheltine Works, Cheltenham, showed their excellent cereal foods, which might also be tasted in cooked form. So palatable and delicious were they that to taste was to wish for more.

Virol Ltd. (No. 82), 152, Old Street, E.C., showed their Complete Food composed of beef marrow, eggs, etc., which is used in Children's and Consumptive Hospitals with excellent results.

Hipi, a pure mutton essence, of which no less than 1,040 doz. 4 oz. tins, or 1½ tons, have been supplied to the War Office was shown by G. Nelson Dale & Co., Ltd. (No. 114), 14, Dowgate Hill, E.C., and lastly must be mentioned: Cerebos Salt; shown by Cerebos Ltd. (No. 107), 3, Maiden Lane, E.C. After all, all our food is flavourless and insipid without the addition of this necessary condiment, and when we buy salt let us make sure that it is Cerebos.

## Professional Review.

CONSIDERATIONS SUR LES INFIRMIÈRES  
DES HÔPITEAUX.\*

BY ANNA EMILIE HAMILTON,

Doctor of Medicine.

(Continued from page 401.)

## ARTICLE VI.

## WANT OF CLEANLINESS.

In our last article we showed how defective were the toilet arrangements in many of the Paris Hospitals for the nursing staffs. The consequent lack of cleanliness cannot fail to be prejudicial to the patients, and Dr. Hamilton relates that an obstetric physician has indicated as a common cause of infection of the nipple in nursing mothers the fact that the fingers and nails of the nurse are not even elementarily clean. Another doctor notes the diminution of boils in typhoid, thanks to the treatment by baths, which has "the great advantage of keeping the patients

\* Montpellier, Imprimerie Centrale du Midi, (Hamelin Frères.)

clean." Patients in bed are not washed, or very rarely, the single basin in a ward being reserved for the visiting doctor, so one sees in the Hotel-Dieu three grades, (1) a jug and basin for the use of visiting staff, (2) the women patients, naturally the more clean, help one another with their toilets; in the male wards only those who can get up go to the lavatories when these exist. She has known patients only to have a tap under which to wash, whilst in other institutions there appears to be only a fountain in the courtyard.

The assistance publique provides nightcaps for the patients, but no towels, handkerchiefs or serviettes, consequently the corner of the sheet is used for these diverse purposes. If one considers that neither does this body provide knives and forks, and that the patients are obliged to tear their meat with their fingers, the injuriousness of these deficiencies will be easily understood, and what a source of auto-infection is occasioned in the case of tuberculosis and other complaints which are communicated by microbes. Thus the sick who are too feeble to get up are not kept clean. The skin which is greasy with perspiration and dust does not act properly, uneliminated poisons slowly poison the system, and the bed, which is only made once in eight days, and never aired during the sojourn of the same patient, keeps him in a tainted atmosphere. Under the bolster and mattresses are kept the clothes, boots, and small possessions of the patient, thus adding to the means of infection. The precautions for the avoidance of bedsores are neglected. Action is delayed until gangrene threatens, and often the sick person himself directs attention to this point.

The importance of cleansing the skin is so little understood that Dr. Hamilton reports having seen a certificated male nurse count the soiled ward-linen, amongst which is often that of tuberculous persons, then verify the clean linen, handling it also, and afterwards attend to the jars containing dressings without having ever washed his hands.

## MARRIAGES OF THE STAFF.

It will readily be understood that the fact that the members of hospital staffs are allowed to marry creates many difficulties with regard to housing, discipline, and superintendance, as accommodation has to be provided for husband and wife, children, and often an aged parent. Dr. Bourneville has called the attention of the administration to the cases of the married male and female nurses, and pleads that instead of being compelled to sleep in the dormitories they should be provided with rooms, and urges that these married couples should be appointed to work in the same hospitals, or, at least, have the same day off duty.

## NIGHT DUTY.

It is said that the night duty is deputed to absolutely inexperienced persons, yet this service is precisely the one in which the most intelligence and initiative are required. Night duty begins at eight o'clock in the evening, and ends at ten in the morning. Owing to deficient supervision the repose of the patients is affected. Noisy and disturbed the night becomes a time of anguish for those patients who are not sufficiently ill to be unconscious.

(To be continued.)

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