

the medical wards of our hospitals have been admitted for acute chest complaints such as pneumonia and pleurisy, and how all important it is that they should be warmly clad on their discharge if the good effect of the care they have had while in hospital is not to be frustrated. Yet often a thin cotton shirt is the warmest garment that the wardrobe of such a patient contains, and the present of two flannel shirts makes all the difference between comfort and discomfort, health, and sickness. The number of shirts provided by the Club during the year was 426, making a total of 1,993 since the Club was formed six years ago.

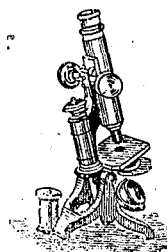
We should like to see this Society enlarge its sphere of work so as to provide flannel vests, and petticoats for women patients, having vivid recollections of an episode in the early days of our hospital Matronship. On one occasion, finding the door of a small ward locked, and the nurse who subsequently opened it rather rosy of face, we made inquiries and found that she had been behind a screen divesting herself of some of her warm underclothing for the benefit of a critical operation case now convalescent and discharged. Subsequently systematic help for these necessitous cases was organized. That it is necessary, and greatly appreciated, is beyond doubt.

A HOME FOR HOMELESS BABIES.

A good work is being done by the Home for Homeless Babies, which until recently has been carried on at Hershams, and now has moved to larger quarters at Alexandra House, Alexandra Grove, North Finchley. The Home is in charge of Miss B. Wright, assisted by Miss Kingsford, and both are experienced nurses. The object of the Home is to provide for the care of infants of unmarried working girls, whose lives have been previously thoroughly respectable, so that these children may not suffer physically and morally from unscrupulous baby-farming, and further to bring a kindly influence to bear upon the mothers, and to ensure that they get that for which they pay—usually with extreme difficulty. The children remain in the Home until they are five years of age when they must be boarded out, the mothers being charged for their maintenance at the rate of five shillings a week. Thus the mother is not relieved of her obligations to the child, but is encouraged to support it by honest work, almost an impossibility if the child is not put out to nurse.

Medical Matters.

OCCURRENCE OF TYPHOID BACILLI IN THE BLOOD.



DR. COLE (*Bulletin* of the Johns Hopkins Hospital) gives the results of a research on the frequency of the occurrence of the typhoid bacilli in the blood of patients suffering from the disease. The blood was examined in both severe and light cases, and the bacilli found in eleven out of fifteen. In three cases in which the organism was found the attacks were very light, while in one severe case, in which on two occasions no bacilli were found, the attack was severe and prolonged; in another severe case no bacilli were found, though the blood was examined on three occasions. This patient was pregnant; miscarriage occurred on the twelfth day of the disease, and the bacilli were found in the blood of the fœtus and in the patient's urine. Positive results were obtained, most commonly in the second week; but bacilli have been found on the sixth day, and the latest on the twenty-seventh day. This paper is of importance as showing that the typhoid bacilli occur in the blood much more frequently than has been supposed.

BROMIDE ERUPTION.

Dr. Norman Walker describes the rashes produced by the bromides and iodides, in the *Medical Annual*, which are perhaps the most constant in type of any of the rashes produced by drugs. The usual history of a case of bromide rash is: The child is suffering from teething troubles, with perhaps slight convulsions. It is taken to a chemist, who prescribes teething powders containing bromide of potassium. Sometimes one or two doses are sufficient to produce a well marked eruption, and in one where the eruption was very extensive the child had not taken altogether more than a drachm of bromide of potassium. Often when the case is seen the mother has forgotten all about the two or three powders which she gave to the child perhaps a fortnight before. It is important that nurses should be aware of the occurrence of these rashes, as it frequently happens that they are the first to see them, and on them devolves the duty of ascertaining the history of the case, so that they should know in what direction to prosecute enquiries.

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