

THE Committee of that very useful Institution, the Home and Day Nursery for Children of Widows, Rusholme Road, Manchester, make an earnest appeal for more funds in support of their excellent but unobtrusive work. There is accommodation for fifty-five children, but owing to the dilapidated condition of the banking account the number admitted has to be reduced. The expenditure is very small considering the amount of benefits given—£800 per annum; but the income is smaller, much smaller—only about half. Surely there are many local merchant princes, with a gift which none of them would miss, who could easily put the finances of this Home on a sound footing. THE JUNIOR HOUSE SURGEON.

INVENTIONS, NOTICES OF PREPARATIONS, &c.

We are glad to be able to announce to our readers that we have now matured arrangements for an occasional supply of information in this column of new and interesting matter connected with inventions of a kind adapted to the character of this journal.

"Have you an idea for a patent?" Our readers are requested to send us any new ideas they may have, however simple, and they will promptly receive the advice of a leading patent specialist gratis.

All communications under this head should be addressed to the Editor, with the word "Invention" plainly written on the left hand corner of the envelope.

MR. LEOPOLD HOFF—the announcement of whose well-known preparation, *Hoff's Malt Extract*, appears in our advertisement columns—has had the gratification of being awarded the only prize for malt extracts, consisting of a silver medal, at the Hamburg International Industrial Exhibition; also at the Melbourne Exhibition Mr. Hoff received the first order of merit.

AMONGST recent patents taken out for inventions connected with the art of healing is a *Sun and Vapour Bath*, which is due to the genius of Mr. Edwin D. Babbitt, New York City. This is a box with side reflectors and a glass pane in its inclined front, coloured strips of glass being placed on the pane for subjecting the body to different light rays, while a coloured glass is held in front of the head, that it may receive only the cool rays, while the box has a wire mattress, and is adapted to receive a steaming pan.

THE Medical Jurors of the Paris Exhibition have awarded a silver medal for *Hydronaphthol*, the new antiseptic and germicide, non-poisonous and odourless; and the highest award (silver medal) for *Plasters and Surgical Dressings*, to

Seabury & Johnson, 21, Platt Street, New York, and 46, Jewin Street, London, E.C.

Bannerman's Phenyle is a new disinfectant which has been patented by Mr. Charles F. Bond, Chicago, Ill. This is the copyrighted name of a disinfectant, deodoriser and germicide, to be used in sick rooms and wherever foul and disagreeable odours arise, the compound consisting of slaked lime, red ochre, carbolic acid, creosote, bichloride of mercury, salicylic acid, and other ingredients mixed and united in specified proportions.

BERLIN has for some months past rejoiced in an exhibition of safety machinery, and of all kinds of appliances for ensuring safety to the lives and limbs of workmen. Yet a large number of accidents have occurred in this very exhibition; on one day as many as ten accidents were reported, all caused by one form or another of "safety apparatus."

In the field of dentistry American inventors appear to be very busy. Thus an *Electric Dental Instrument* has been patented by Mr. Fred Vernet, Hannibal, Mo. This is an instrument designed to remove the pain incident to the extraction of teeth, and consists of adjustable pivotally connected prongs carrying buttons and connected with an electrical battery, the buttons to be placed on the face over the nerves leading from the teeth to the brain, and a circuit established the moment the tooth-extracting instrument touches the tooth to be removed.

A *Dental Drill Attachment* has been patented by Mr. Jesse H. Moyer and Jesse P. Stansell, Temple, Texas. Combined with the upper pulley, and supporting pulley frame of the drill is a rod having hinged to its upper end a clip with set screw, and at its lower end a frame and wheel journaled, saving time and rendering it impossible for the cords to twist or become entangled when the hand piece is released.

AN apparatus has been devised by a Dr. Telschow for the purpose of vapourising solid medicaments, and it has already rendered great service in connection with throat complaints. The apparatus consists of an india-rubber syringe, traversed by a piece of platinum wire. This wire is covered with the powder medicament, and a strong current of electricity is sent through it. The wire becoming incandescent the powder is vapourised and is carried by the current of hot air in the required direction.

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