

Annotations.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

At the Annual Provincial Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association held last week at Bournemouth, Mr. Isaac Young, Chairman of the Central Executive Council, referred to the appointment of women sanitary inspectors, and said that the Association comprised not a few of those excellent officers. It was generally agreed, he said, that on the important question of saving infant life women inspectors could do good work and perform a noble part. The present infantile mortality was a national disgrace.

NOISY STREETS.

Dr. Fletcher Little, who is one of the Marylebone Borough Councillors, has been expressing himself strongly in the Press as to the noisy traffic in Weymouth Street, Devonshire Street, and other streets in Marylebone. Complaints which have been made are, he says, only too well founded, and deserve the prompt attention of the public authorities. The great increase of quick heavy traffic has attained such dimensions that it is destroying the amenities of these streets, and interfering with the health and comfort of the inhabitants. Dr. Little contends that the interference with work by day should be prevented, and the sleep of brain workers and occupants of nursing homes at night should be protected by those who have the sanitary interests of the parish under their charge. Also the commercial side should not be overlooked. These streets are very highly rented and rated, and, while all the business streets (some of lower rateable value) in the parish are very properly paved with wood, those referred to have been neglected.

It is very important in the case of nursing homes to secure as much quiet as possible. Patients very often come up from the country for operation or treatment, and find it impossible to sleep in a noisy street, while, of course, after a critical operation, quiet surroundings are of paramount importance. Only the medical attendant and the nurse probably can gauge the disappointment, and even the injury, which results when a patient who has longed for sleep in vain, and at length drops off, is suddenly awakened by a noise such as the passage of heavy railway vans, traction engines, and motors, the unmelodious strains of a grinding organ, or the ringing of church bells. Dr. Little will earn the gratitude of many if he succeeds in abating such noises.

Medical Matters.

A SIMPLE SANATORY TENT.



Dr. Henry L. Ulrich, member of the Anti-Tuberculosis Committee of the Associated Charities of Minneapolis, writes in *Charities* that the use of the tent in the "outdoor treatment" of tuberculosis permits us to make the many concessions which at this stage of our progress in the fight against the disease are demanded. We cannot send the most of our patients to sanatoria, we cannot send them to the "country." We must be contented with front yards, back yards, empty lots and outskirts of cities on which to build our miniature institutions of hope and usefulness. The tent brings the nine-tenths of our cases who are debarred from sanatoria into the range of a "cure."

With these thoughts in view I desired, he says, to build a tent within the reach of the poor man's purse and intelligence. I wished it to be serviceable, simple, and withal cheap. With a knowledge of Dr. Gardiner's tent, I applied to the ordinary wall sleeping tent now on the market his system of floor vents, and, in addition, cut out the canvas running along the ridges to ensure ventilation. Raised one foot above the tent I threw a "fly."

The floor is raised 1 ft. from the ground. A framework of boarding 1 in. by 12 in. is built around the border set 1 in. to 2 in. away from the edge and at right angles to the floor plane. The frame is rigid and extends at least 2 in. below the under floor surface. This arrangement gives the air intake or floor vent. The frame extends below the floor in order to make an angular entrance for the air, thereby avoiding direct draught. The floor and its framework are built to fit the inside of the dependent walls of the tent. In tent-making there is always a play of several inches owing to the variation in width of canvas and to technic. It is wise to instruct the maker to measure the base of the tent ordered and append the results to the delivery slip. The floor and its frame can then be built to fit snugly. The walls are attached to the outside and low down on the frame overlapping liberally at the corners. All four walls can be rolled up, and reef loops are attached under the eaves to hold the rolled sides. The movable

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