

## Annotations.

### A WISE VIEW.

A great danger of legislation for women as a separate class is that it should be too paternal, and the wise and liberal-minded position taken by the London Diocesan Council of the Church of England Temperance Society, on the recommendation of the Committee responsible for temperance work amongst women in the London diocese, will be appreciated by all. The Council recommends—

“That, considering the whole question of the danger of closing employments for women, and also of the danger to boys who would be employed in bars if women were forbidden to serve, this Council is of opinion that the main duty is to get conditions of living improved for women, and not to petition Parliament to abolish barmaids. The Council would desire to raise the age at which barmaids are permitted to serve, and to discourage by private influence the adoption of bar work as a business by women.”

While this decision will probably not be acceptable to some ardent temperance reformers, it will commend itself to those who can dispassionately weigh all sides of the question.

### SLATES SUPERSEDED IN SCHOOLS.

The Board of Education have announced their intention of discouraging the use of slates in public elementary schools, for the following reasons:—(1) They are the wrong material for writing on, present the wrong surface, and involve the use of the wrong instrument. (2) They are insanitary and likely to propagate disease on account of the dirty habits that are inseparable from their use. (3) They encourage careless and inaccurate habits. Children using them sit in lolling and slovenly attitudes, and are apt to write down in a hurry what first occurs to them, as mistakes are easily rectified; the quality of the work is thus often sacrificed to the quantity. (4) They render revision of the work impossible, and thus prevent any regular records of progress being kept. Many mistakes are for this reason allowed to go uncorrected. On account of the reasons given above the use of slates is being given up throughout the country, as the trifling increase in cost is far outweighed by the hygienic and educational advantages derived from the use of paper.

## Medical Matters.

### INOCULATION AGAINST SLEEPING SICKNESS.



It is reported that Professor Laveran has just made a preliminary report to the French Academy of Science upon what he believes will prove to be a cure for sleeping sickness. Having remarked that certain monkeys never caught the disease, the Professor prepared a serum from these animals, and used it with marked success in cases of sleeping sickness and other diseases set up by the trypanostoma microbe. The experiments are to be continued.

### A STEAM KETTLE.

An interesting appliance exhibited by the Johns Hopkins Hospital at the tenth Annual Convention of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools was a steam kettle, the device of a nurse, for use in nursing diphtheria, croup, or any of the various troubles relieved by a moist atmosphere. It is an ordinary tea-kettle with a telescoping spout, and provided with valves and gauges which make it impossible for the water to boil over. By means of these the nurse is kept constantly informed as to the height of the water in the kettle.

The receptacle for water, raised upon secure legs, should stand over an alcohol lamp upon a table covered with asbestos. Because of the long spout, the kettle may be placed at any desired distance from the bed, and still have the source of steam quite near the patient, thus reducing to a minimum the danger of igniting the bedclothes or scalding the patient.

### A NEW TRIUMPH OF SURGERY.

Although in times past many people have begrudged the name of science to medicine, it is not to be denied that it is developing a capacity for exactness that brings it within the category of the 'ographies and 'ologies, particularly as they themselves are proved by daily discoveries and experiments to have been inexact. In surgery more particularly we find rules for the repair of injuries to be as definite as any axiom in physics, and perhaps more effective than are the repulsions and affinities whereon we base our therapeutics. No sooner have we recovered from our wonder and abated our admiration for bloodless

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