

Practical Points.

One constantly reads, in the Exhibits of the Nurses' Social Union. One constantly reads, in nursing papers, accounts of new dressings, disinfectants, foods, appliances, etc. The collection of these which is exhibited at meetings of the N.S.U. in Somerset, gives every member of the Union a chance of seeing them. This opportunity is especially useful to Nurses and Midwives who have left their institutions. The foods which are shown are approved of by medical authorities. Most of the appliances are bought from the best-known instrument makers, while the suggestions for clothing, bed cradles, etc., are from nurses themselves. Amongst the exhibits are to be noticed photographs of microscopic slides of pathogenic organisms, lent by a nurse. These suggestions and photographs are doubly welcome, because the Union aims distinctly at being a Union of Nurses for Nurses, and all practical suggestions mean that every nurse is helping her fellow nurses, and so spreading comforts to many patients. The exhibits are too numerous to mention in detail, numbering about 80, but the following are good samples of the whole. Amongst the compressed dressings and disinfectants is *Cyllin*, which has thirteen times the bactericidal strength of carbolic acid, and is, therefore, in the long run, cheaper; it is non-toxic, and does not stain linen, nor affect the hands to the same extent as carbolic, perchloride of mercury, etc., and its efficiency is not impaired by soap and water.

Amongst the foods are: *Desiccated milk* (Defiance dried milk), recommended by Dr. Hutchison. Desiccated milk is recommended in preference to cheap condensed milks, and will keep good a long time, even when open, so it is very valuable in travelling, and when nursing in a district where the milk supply is bad.

Garrould's district bag, with washable lining, is noted for its cheapness and lightness; the bag itself adds little to the weight of the instruments and appliances which the nurse is obliged to carry.

Washable batiste is waterproof, non-adhesive, and may be boiled; there is also a roll of *absorbent wool*, the cheapest known, costing 7½d. per lb. This is particularly worth noticing, for wool is an absolute necessity in nursing, and all nurses should study economy.

An *aluminium saucerpan* is most useful in private and district work, and for travelling, as it is so very light, and does not burn.

The *Universal vaporizer* is one of the best. These vaporizers are most useful in catarrhal cases, affecting the pharynx, nasal passages, eustachian tubes, and middle ear on account of the minutest possible division into which the vaporizer splits the fluid.

An *electrical tongue depressor* (Allen & Hanburys) is intended to light up the throat for examination.

Amongst the clothing is a bed-jacket for nursing mothers (made by the Nurses of the St. John's

House), but which would be equally good for patients with lung trouble.

A set of *Aliène baby clothing* is so made that every garment, composing the set, fits into the other, and, when laid out flat, the baby is laid on it and can be dressed without turning or pins. There is also a set of *model baby clothing* for cottage mothers to copy, and a large number of the newest leaflets and pamphlets on subjects of interest to nurses, such as:

"Prevention of Tuberculosis"; "Infant Feeding"; "District Work"; "Disinfectants"; "The Cry of the Children," by G. R. Sims, and specimens of pamphlets for distribution amongst our poor. There is, in connection with the Nurses' Social Union, an excellent library, the subscription to which is of the smallest. Not only does it contain the standard works on Anatomy, Physiology, Surgical and Medical handbooks, but modern books such as: "The After Treatment of Operations" (Mummary), and "A System of Surgical Nursing" (McGregor).

Rules and catalogues of the Library can be obtained from Miss Joseph, Holford, Bridgewater.

Miss Eden, the Central Organiser, also possesses a full-size anatomical figure, which she would be pleased to lend to any Institution connected with the Nurses' Social Union.

R. B. Fry.

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Ladies' Charity Lying-in Hospital, Liverpool.—Miss Ethel M. Canty has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the London Hospital, E., and at York Road Lying-In Hospital, Lambeth, and has held the position of Sister-Midwife in Charge of the district in connection with the London Hospital Training School for Midwives since July, 1905. Before she began her career as a nurse, Miss Canty held the position of Teacher of Domestic Economy under the London County Council at the Borough Road Polytechnic, and was also for two years Superintendent of the Women's Technical Classes in Liverpool under the Committee of the Training School of Cookery, where she obtained certificates for domestic subjects. She was also trained as a Health Lecturer by the Liverpool Ladies' Sanitary Association in 1894—1895.

MATRONS.

Rotherham Hospital and Dispensary.—Miss Ida M. Turner has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Birmingham General Hospital, and has held the position of Sister in Theatre and Ophthalmic Wards, and of Male Surgical and Accident Wards at the Royal Infirmary, Hull. She has also held the position of Housekeeper, and since October, 1905, that of Assistant Matron at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Derby.

Isolation Hospital, Bridgend.—Miss I. M. Davies has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the General Hospital, Hereford, and the City Hospital, Bristol. She has held the position of Staff Nurse at the Town Hospital, Barry.

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