

very useful in the preparation of barley water for adults.

Another very popular preparation is Robinson's Patent Groats, which makes a delicious gruel for nursing mothers, and is just the thing for a tired midwife to take after she has been called out at night on her return home, before going to bed.

THE CHINOSOL HYGIENIC Co. (Messrs. B. Kuhn and Co.), 16, Rood Lane, E.C., were exhibiting Chinosol in its various forms. This antiseptic has won for itself a high reputation as being both safe and reliable, as while non-poisonous and non-corrosive, it has great germicidal action. One advantage is that being of a clear yellow colour, instruments placed in trays containing this preparation are readily discernible. It is supplied in tablets of given weight and strength from which aqueous solutions are readily prepared. A dainty antiseptic perfume for the handkerchief, useful in nasal catarrh, is Lavantisol, supplied in 1s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. bottles.

MESSRS. W. H. BAILEY AND SON, LTD., 38, Oxford Street, W. Amongst the many exhibits of interest to nurse on this stand, were the "Ideal" Feeding Cup, which obviates the necessity for using a feeder with an objectionable spout. The "Ideal" can be obtained in glass, earthenware, and thin china, and all varieties can be had for a few pence; the Aseptic Thermometer, at the low price of 2s., the scale being marked on the inside; a convenient spring case, containing three bottles, just the thing for a midwife and nurse's bag. Into the round case the three bottles of special design fit compactly and snugly; the non-slip roughened rubber gloves, at 3s. a pair, should commend themselves to nurses, and a very attractive pocket case for nurses' instruments, fitted, and sterilisable, costs only 30s. A very convenient glass urinal, with indiarubber tube attached, obviating the use of a bedpan, also was worthy of attention, and attracted a considerable amount of interest. It should prove a real boon to many helpless patients.

The Organising Secretary of the Exhibition, Mr. Ernest Schofield, is to be congratulated on the success of the Exhibition, much of which success is the result of the courtesy which he has extended to all exhibitors.

#### THE PROMOTION OF HYGIENE.

The Incorporated Institute of Hygiene, 34, Devonshire Street, Harley Street, London, W., has issued an extended syllabus of its examinations, which are of two classes:—(1) for the certificate of the Institute; and (2) for the Diploma (advanced). Amongst the honours subjects, which are optional on the part of the candidate, are School Hygiene, the Hygiene of the Home, Home Nursing and First Aid, the Hygiene of Motherhood, the Feeding and Rearing of Children, Food and Dietetics, Cooking, Physical Training, and the Hygiene of Building Construction. For further particulars applications should be made to the Secretary of the Institute at the above address.

## Our Foreign Letter.

### L'HOPITAL MIXTE DE PHILIPPEVILLE.



The Philippeville General Hospital was opened in 1842 for soldiers and civilians, but no provision was made at

that time for the reception of women.

In 1904 a change of organisation took place, and under the new management the number of military beds was reduced to about 30, leaving 60 for men and 90 for women—the total number being 180. When this change was made, the town bought from the military authorities the furniture in the wards vacated by their patients. The head of the establishment is called the Director. He is the head clerk, having the authority of House-Governor, with the previous experience of a house-steward. He is responsible to the Algerian Government for all the Poor Law Institutions in the town.

The Hospital revenue is derived on the one hand from the State, which pays fourpence a day for each patient, and, on the other, from the patients for whom the Mayor of their town or village pays a fixed sum. The hospital, two storeys high, and built in the form of an E, is perched up on a rock which overshadows the railway station and harbour. From its windows there is a lovely and uninterrupted view over the Mediterranean to the horizon. Roughly speaking, the right wing is occupied by soldiers, the middle wing by women, and the end one by the male patients. The offices, dispensary, and kitchen form the block which unite the three pavilions. Between each wing there is a garden planted with mulberry trees, giving a delightful shade to the patients, who are well enough to be allowed out from the wards, and who find amusement in watching the trains and boats disembarking their passengers.

The entrance to the hospital is gained from the town either by stone steps, or else by a winding carriage drive bordered by spiky aloes.

The general appearance of the hospital is poor and unwashed, the result of the upkeep being neglected.

The paint (brown being the ugly colour considered suitable for the sick poor) is worn off wherever there is daily wear and tear. It is replaced by an appreciable layer of black finger marks. There are stains on the ceilings, the window panes are dull and often cracked. There is no adornment by plants, dressing tables, or even "brights"—often too lavishly displayed in our own hospitals.

The wards are long, fairly wide, and well lighted. The flooring is of wood, with the smoothness of a barn floor, due to fine dust swept with a coarse broom. Watering the floor before sweeping to prevent the dust rising hides the unevenness of the old wood by filling up the interstices with a fine clay. The beds are black iron with a wooden shelf at either end. The lockers are iron, too, and

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