

LEMCO AND OXO (Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd.), 4, Lloyd's Avenue, E.C., are displaying their well known and highly valued preparations. Oxo in cubes, composed of beef extract and beef fibrine concentrated in solid cubes, is deservedly popular, and is to be found on this stand.

Close by, PROFESSOR SOXHLET'S MILK STERILIZER, 63, Crutched Friars, London, E.C., are exhibiting the Feeding Apparatus of that name, which should be inspected as a rational means of sterilising and preserving milk.

MESSRS. J. T. BRAGG, LTD., 14, Wigmore Street, W., are showing their renowned charcoal biscuits, as well as charcoal chocolates and other dainty preparations.

ALEXANDER ROBB AND Co., 79, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., celebrated for their Nursery Biscuits, and purveyors to upwards of 20 Royal Nurseries, have a good display of their valued preparations.

THE GAS LIGHT AND COKE COMPANY, Horseferry Road, S.W.—The special feature of the Gas Light and Coke Company's Exhibit is their scheme for the abolition of solid fuel. Nurses should not fail to pay this stand a visit.

THE MEDICAL SUPPLY ASSOCIATION, 228, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—One is always assured of finding useful and practical appliances and novelties on the stand of this firm, and "Macdonald's Patent Sterilizers" for dressings and instruments are proving prime favourites. Dressings so sterilized are guaranteed sterile in half an hour, and are taken out as dry as if sterilized under high pressure. The cost is from £2 17s. 6d. Other specialties of the firm are "Snowden's improved flame-proofing materials," and it is notable that while in exhibitions, theatres, etc., inflammable fabrics must be treated with this or other preparations, no such regulation obtains in regard to hospitals and infirmaries. The china cupsidors, with cardboard insets, costing only 1s., should also be noted.

SOME NOVELTIES.

Amongst novelties we observed the "Gripnet" Coal Tongs, which would be most useful in a sick room from their noiselessness; the "Nurse Dixon" Maternity Binder, which appears to be both practical and simple, and the "Eastbourne" Improved Invalid Chair.

THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference, which is being held in the L.C.C. Technical Institute, adjoining the Royal Horticultural Hall, was opened by Sir Dyce Duckworth, who addressed his audience as "Ladies and Gentlemen and Nurses," and said that these occasions were a pleasure and satisfaction to those who took part in them, but the work of organisation was very heavy.

It must be gratifying to nurses of all kinds that their work was more and more appreciated by the public. English nurses were in advance of their Continental sisters, and the skilled service they rendered was the envy of medical men on the Continent, especially in France.

MASSAGE.

Dr. May Thorne then took the chair, and the first paper presented was one by Miss Maclean on TRAINING, INCLUDING PERSONALITY.

As to the length of training the speaker thought

that in the case of a trained nurse, six or eight months should be sufficient under a good trainer to learn the theory and practice of massage, including a short course of medical gymnastics. No case should be undertaken except under medical direction.

In the discussion of the paper, Miss Stanley enquired whether it would be possible to abolish competitive courses, and give a certificate when proficiency was attained. Miss Turner desired that masseuses should be registered. Miss Lucy Robinson pointed out that the examination of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses was not competitive but qualifying.

MASSAGE WORK IN LARGE HOSPITALS.

Miss L. V. Haughton, Matron of Guy's Hospital, gave an interesting account of the massage department at Guy's. Many schools were, she said, re-organising special departments of this kind, and others were establishing them. Modern physicians and surgeons realised the fact that a large proportion of hospital patients were benefited by massage. It would be very expensive to have all the work done by thoroughly trained masseuses, and some hospitals turned over the work to a school of massage. The ideal was for the hospital to organise its own school, and take pupils. The first teacher at Guy's, in 1888, Miss Malony, had been closely associated with the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses. Now there were 36 members of the nursing staff in the hospital holding that certificate, and a number of the private nurses. The practical work obtainable in the wards and out-patient department was unlimited. Miss Haughton thought there was a demand for a longer course.

Miss Seamell said that a frequent difficulty in hospital work was that the masseuse did not get her instructions direct from a medical man, but through a third person, who did not understand massage.

Mrs. Wilson explained the system in operation at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where the masseuses have written instructions signed by a member of the visiting staff, and Miss Newton (Ipswich) said her experience was that medical men ordered "massage," and if she asked for further instructions the reply she received was, "I leave it to you."

Miss Copestake described the system of training at the London Hospital, where 28,000 cases received massage treatment last year.

We can only briefly refer to Miss Lucy Robinson's paper on "The Professional Aspect of the Work," and that by Miss Bliss, on "Massage as a Living."

INSPECTORS OF MIDWIVES.

At six o'clock a paper by Miss Wooldridge, Inspector of Midwives for Staffordshire, aroused lively discussion.

Mrs. Lawson, President of the National Association of Midwives, inquired whether it was usual for inspectors to go all over a midwife's house and open and inspect her private drawers, as was done by one inspector to her knowledge.

Those present denied such a practice in their own case.

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