

thickest shoes, and Wellington boots, are the least number the weather will allow one to do with for everyday wear. It literally rains right through you at times, until you can feel it coming out on the other side. You don't mind, because it is second nature, or, as we say here, "kind nature" or "kind mother" to you. Still, you can't drip all round the house into all the rooms for very pity at the sight of your dear little housekeeper's patient's sigh. (Nurses, you, at least, are aware that a sigh is seen as well as heard.) And once you have changed you *never* get back into your wet clothes to go out in again, however much you ought to do it. Those shoes! They are home-made, the soles an inch thick (this is a lie, but they are *very* thick), dotted impartially with "protectors." They are the despair of hotel "boots" and of my friends' odd men and hall boys, because they won't take blacking, being accustomed to a plentiful coat of rape oil. But they are the joy of townfolk, who stare at them with despairing wonder, quite unmixed with admiration. And they are the delight of their owner, because they don't let in the water, except as a last resort, and just a little, too, because they do shock other people so, although she goes dry-foot while they themselves are soaking. Beloved Mrs. Propriety, you must "suffer to be fine."

But, alas, the editor! And I was going to tell you, and can't, how I burnt the tips and they had to have toe-caps, and *they* pinched me; and the second pair blistered my feet; and the third pair had brown lappets to black uppers—such a pleasant contrast!—and how none of them are worn out yet, for they mend and mend again, and to give you the name and address of my shoemaker; and—well, the editor won't have it—so I must wait till next time, when I shall have lost the thread. And perhaps you will be thankful.

KERRY.

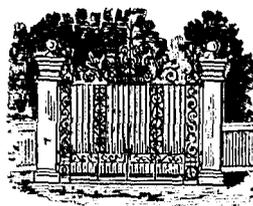
FIRST AID IN COLLIERIES.

A useful little pamphlet, "First Aid in Collieries," by Dr. T. L. Llewellyn, First Tyndall Scholar, is published by the *Colliery Guardian*, 30, Furnival Street, Holborn, E.C. It shows the importance of immediate care of minor accidents, as clean wounds which should heal soundly in a week if infected may lead to serious consequences, and months of illness and incapacity follow. He considers that a large number of men should be trained to render first aid, and that they should be well equipped. In colliery explosions the chief cause of death is poisoning by carbon monoxide. The treatment is to remove the patient to fresh air without delay. It is quite wrong to attempt treatment in the pit as artificial respiration should never be performed in an atmosphere containing carbon monoxide. The patient should be kept under observation as secondary collapse often occurs.

Messrs. Welford and Sons, Ltd., of Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, W., have received a Royal Warrant of Appointment as "Purveyors of Milk and Cream" to his Majesty King George V.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



We are glad to observe that Canon Newbolt is drawing attention to an evil which this journal has brought before its readers, namely, the need for rescue work amongst children between the ages of eight and sixteen. He writes that more than 1,500 cases of children who have become implicated in sin of the grossest kind have been reported to the Secretary of the Church Penitentiary Association, and there must be many hundreds more which are never brought to light. To save these children from lifelong shame and degradation, and to protect those as yet uncontaminated it is necessary to find homes for them in accordance with the provisions of "The Children's Act," where the child may be retained by "a fit person" out of whose custody it is an offence punishable with fine and imprisonment to induce the child to depart.

Canon Newbolt appeals for £3,000 or £4,000 to start and equip a home at Wolverhampton, where a house has been offered, and in other centres, so that a beginning may be made in stemming a cruel wrong.

A beginning is made when the evil which exists in our midst is recognised, and spoken of. Its power lies in the silence, a silence in which the Church has shared, in which it has been enveloped.

Donations for this object will be gratefully received by the secretaries, Church Penitentiary Association, Incorporated Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.

The result of the prize competition held at Wickham, near Newbury, under the auspices of the Women's Imperial Health Association of Great Britain, in which fifty-two children competed, was to prove that not one of the fifty-two possessed a sound set of teeth. The competition was the result of the interest aroused by a caravan lecture given during the tour of the Aurora, one of the caravans of the Association, when Mrs. Leng, of Welford Park, organised a competition for prizes for the children whose teeth showed that the most care had been bestowed on them between October and January 6th. The first prize of £1 ls. was awarded by Mr. G. Thomson, dental surgeon, of Harley Street, London, W., to Winifred Brown, because the condition of the mouth, teeth, and gums was fairly good, and she seemed to have attended carefully to the brushing of the outer and inner surfaces of her teeth, but Mr. Thomson reported that he was not satisfied with a single set of teeth, and that everyone of the fifty-two children ought to be attended to without delay if they were to be spared toothache and indigestion in the future.

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