

completes the Furnishing Fund of the New Sir Henry Tyler Wing, which gives an addition of 65 beds to the institution, making 165 beds in all. The cost of the building of the new wing and site was £44,664 and the furnishing £3,469, making a total of £48,133, the whole of which amount has been raised during the last six years.

The Board of Management are now making an urgent appeal for £11,000 to complete the New Home for Nurses, which has been erected and furnished at a cost of £18,500, of which some £7,500 has already been subscribed, including £500 from the King Edward's Hospital Fund, to whom the plans were submitted and approved.

The Board of Management of the Chester Infirmary have received the handsome sum of £3,000 from Messrs. Summers, of Harwarden Bridge Ironworks, towards the extension of the institution. The Board reported at the Annual Meeting recently that nothing could be more satisfactory than the position of the staff and the way in which the whole institution was being managed. Economies had been accomplished which they had not thought could be achieved, and there were many instances of the untiring exertions of the Matron, Miss Blayney.

John Bull has some pertinent remarks on "Charity" balls. It states that the result of one of these much-belauded charitable efforts is that £15,000 has been spent on costumes, £4,000 on suppers and refreshments, and £2,000 has been raised for the hospitals. We are not surprised. If note is made, it is usually the same society set which runs these very lucrative charity ventures. Like the old society charity bazaar—now defunct—it is time their finances were overhauled by a reputable firm of auditors. There would be some little surprises beyond the pale!

THE PENAL REFORM LEAGUE.

In the Fifth Annual Report (1912) of the Penal Reform League, discontent amongst prison warders is said to be coming to a head, and the report pleads for better pay and the abolition of fines, vexatious punishments and secret reports.

A review of the year notes, amongst other matters, a movement among University women for women higher officials in women's prisons (Berlin being cited as an example), the work of the Central Association for Discharged Convicts' Aid, "Preventive Detention" at Camp Hill in the Isle of Wight, the movement for better working of Juvenile Courts, the Bills on the Feeble-Minded, the "Crime and Inebriety" Section of the National Conference of Prevention of Destitution (Sir John Macdonell's noteworthy presidential address being specially referred to), and the Eugenics Congress. To illustrate the dangers of deficient investigation in the courts, a sensational example is cited from Scotland, in

which a girl ran away for fear of being poisoned by her demented parents and was packed off to a school. The girl went from one institution to another, and in the meantime two other children of the family were poisoned.

The Report brings many "preventive" agencies under review, especially educational, amongst others the "Montessori Method" and the "Little Commonwealth," to be opened in Dorsetshire in the spring; and ends with an urgent appeal for funds. Amongst some of the things worth spending money on we note the employment of carefully selected gentlewomen as trained nurses and to superintend catering, cooking, and serving arrangements in all prisons, and for all the higher posts in women's prisons.

The general object of the League, which is to interest the public in the right treatment of criminals, and to promote effective measures for their cure and rehabilitation and for the prevention of crime, must commend it to all thoughtful persons.

Copies of the Report may be obtained for 2½d., post free, from the office of the League, 1, Harrington Square, London, N.W.

SANDOW'S HEALTH AND STRENGTH COCOA.

The importance of purity in food and drink is increasingly appreciated by trained nurses, who realise the disadvantage of doctored articles, and the serious consequences which may ensue if delicate and actually ill patients are given food containing ingredients unsuspected by the doctor who regulates the diet.

Mr. Eugen Sandow has lately been widely advertising the fact that his Health and Strength Cocoa is entirely free from added alkali in any form whatever, and this statement is supported by the report of Mr. E. Godwin Clayton, F.I.C., F.C.S., analytical chemist, which states "I have analysed Sandow's Cocoa, and find that there is no added alkali."

This is important in view of the fact that Mr. Sandow points to a considerable volume of medical opinion which goes to show that the general custom of manufacturing cocoa by what is known as the Alkali process, whereby the cocoa, as it reaches the consumer, contains a percentage of alkali in a neutralised form (usually potassium salts), is to be deprecated.

In view of the analyst's report Sandow's Cocoa, manufactured from the pure cocoa bean, without addition of any kind, may be relied upon as an absolutely pure beverage and welcomed as such, containing, after the excess of fat has been removed, the elements of a daily beverage in ideal proportions, while its delicious quality and flavour need no emphasis to those who have once given it a trial. For these reasons many members of the medical profession make a point of ordering Sandow's Cocoa for their patients.

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