

THE TUTORIAL GROUP.

Milk as it should be.

On May 3rd a party of thirty Sister Tutors and their friends were the guests of Cow and Gate, Ltd., for the day.

Leaving Waterloo at 8.40 a.m., with two of the representatives of the Firm, we entrained for Templecombe, where a char-a-banc awaited our arrival, and conveyed us through gloriously green pastureland of that district to the Somerset town of Wincanton.

How beautifully fresh everything looks at this time of the year, all speaking of new life after the winter, lambs, calves, foals, all enjoying their young lives in the exquisitely green yellow dotted fields.

How much we who dwell in the city appreciate also the thrilling song of the birds so gaily on the wing! On arrival at Wincanton we are shown at the entrance to the factory a map of the farms for a seven miles radius, each one supplying Cow and Gate being marked by a red flag.

The farms are inspected frequently and cows examined as necessary. Each farmer is not only supplied with a sterilised churn for his milk supply, but also is given a strainer, so that there is no excuse for any visible dirt being in the milk; if this is found, investigation is made.

The churns are sealed on the farm and placed on Cow and Gate lorries, and so deposited at the factories without any risk of intermediate pollution. The reception platform is certainly a noisy part of the factory, as the milk here is weighed as it is emptied and the churn sterilised to return to the farmer.

Tests are at once made on every churn of milk: Durhams test for B.Coli, Gerber's test for Fat, and the freezing point of fluid to show up adulteration. The samples are also examined for dirt and flavour, and if up to standard the milk is pumped up to the top floor.

An interesting cold storage room and refrigerating plant was most efficient, but the temperature was not comfortable, being 28 deg. F.

We were next shown the milk on the top floor being centrifuged to remove undesirable contents, and the scraping of the can afterwards was amazing. The milk is then cooled through coolers 35 deg. F.

The Tank room was an amazement, milk everywhere being standardised according to its requirements and tested again for fat, acidity, etc. One was not surprised to learn from the stirrer that he never drank milk.

Beneath this room, the milk is converted into a film-like powder 1/150 mm. thin, by special steam heated rollers, which take 2-3 seconds to convert to a dry sterile powder. Circular sieves keep back overheated and insoluble powder. The powder is transferred in bins to a special powder refining machine, and sent to the packing factory.

The Laboratories were of special interest to Sister Tutors who, having had a real practical course, are always out for new tests, and we kept the officials of that department busy with questions, but their work is certainly colossal, and their recording methods excellent: not only of milk contents, tests, etc., but also of conditions of churns, machinery, etc.

It is noteworthy that all the machinery tubes, pipes, holders, etc., are cleaned, and sterilised every day in an Autoclave, this process taking as long to do as the manufacture. We are very happy to find a firm realising and enforcing this side of their work, and this care of milk vessels, etc., in factories must be a means of teaching the workers in their homes the value of cleanliness.

A Generator and cooling water tower were of added interest, as water has to be used with economy in that part of the land.

We were next entertained to a delightful and truly English lunch, to which we all did justice, and were soon on the road to Somerton. Unfortunately the humidity of the air did not allow us as good a view as usual.

The factory at Somerton is on similar lines to the one at Wincanton, and after an enjoyable tour we drove back to the packing factory.

Tests are still done to ensure all milk is up to standard in quality, and as all packing is done by electricity, no hands contaminate anywhere.

The cleanliness maintained in each department of the factories and the interest of the workers speaks well for the firm employing them.

A short halt was made for tea at Wincanton, and we were each presented with a delicious pot of cream and books, etc., before we entered the coach again for Templecombe.

We had a delightful and extremely interesting visit, which will live in our memories, and will aid us much in our teaching of this extensive subject of milk. The Representatives of the Firm were most courteous and hospitable to us. We reached Waterloo in great content, having spent a happy and enlightening time.

The firm are certainly a most enterprising company, and we wish them all the support they deserve.

H. G. BALLARD,

Hon. Secretary.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT OF SURVEY OF NURSING EDUCATION IN CANADA.

By courtesy of the Canadian Nurses' Association.

(Concluded from page 121.)

In its analysis and advocacy of the principle of socialisation of nursing services, the Survey emphasises the following points:—

1. The principle of *ability to pay*. There should be no pauperising; at the same time, an effective socialisation of health services should supply these services to the average patient at less cost than at present, and in more abundant measure.

According to unverified evidence, reported to the Survey by social workers, about 50 per cent. of the families in Canada live on an annual income of approximately \$2,000 or less. After meeting the costs of living, it is obvious that, on the above basis, over 50 per cent. of Canadian families have practically nothing left for hospital, doctors', nurses', or dental charges.

2. COMPULSORY STATE HEALTH INSURANCE UNDER DEFINED INCOME LIMITS FOR THREE CLASSES.

(a) Wage-earners.

(b) Salaried people.

(c) A class enjoying certain financial independence in the sense that they belong to neither of the above classes, such as small merchants, retailers, druggists, butchers, bakers, farmers, *etcetera*.

It might be financed by contributions from the following sources:

(a) The insured.

(b) The employer (in the case of salaried people and wage-earners).

(c) The provincial government.

(d) The federal government (if possible).

3. REORGANISATION AND CONTROL OF NURSING SERVICES.

(a) Registration of nurses and assignment of their duties under conditions that take account of personality and adaptability factors as well as of academic and professional qualifications, might be made effective.

(b) In addition to a more scientific inspection of training schools, provision might be made for the supervision of the nurse in service, with the object of promoting her professional growth.

(c) A system of superannuation for nurses, similar to that now enjoyed by teachers, might be arranged.

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