

urged a 'Drink Clean Milk' campaign." Can we as nurses conscientiously urge that either children or adults should drink more milk until bovine tuberculosis is eradicated from the herds in this country? I have been watching with interest and anxiety for the Report of the Economic Advisory Council appointed in November, 1932, by the Prime Minister, "to consider what practical measures could be taken to secure a reduction of disease among milch cattle in this country, and . . . in particular upon the value and practicability of methods for reducing the incidence of bovine tuberculosis and improving the milk-supply."

The Committee which has now made its Report state that "the incidence of bovine tuberculosis . . . is probably as high in Great Britain as anywhere else in the world. The generally accepted conclusion that at least 40 per cent. of cows in dairy herds are infected with tuberculosis does not appear to be exaggerated."

Under these circumstances, realising as we nurses must, the danger of milk so infected, it appears to me that rather than supporting the "Drink More Milk Campaign," we should discourage the drinking of milk, and support in season and out of season, the necessity for "cows to be clean inside as well as out," as recently urged by the Minister of Agriculture.

Yours faithfully,
STATE REGISTERED NURSE.

THE THOUGHTS OF DONA EVA QUEZADA ACHARAN, M.D., ON MODERN CIVILISATION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—Nurses who attended the Women's International Congress in Berlin in the year 1904 will certainly remember a beautiful Chilian lady, commissioned by the Chilian Government to study the organisation of European institutions for Infant Welfare and the rational instruction of preventative hygiene in schools and other educational centres.

Doctor Eva Quezada Acharan was greatly interested in the development of British Nursing, admired the Nurses' collegial unity, their personal dignity, and general culture, and was at one time the guest of the British Nurses during their stay in Berlin. The present writer, who is honoured by Miss Quezada's friendship, often enjoys an interchange of ideas with that lady on the burning questions of universal unrest, and has permission to pass on the following concise criticism to her nursing friends, whom she faithfully remembers after thirty years.

"People," says Miss Quezada, "are making the great mistake of considering the accumulation and concentration of material commodities as signs of progressive civilization. Civilization must be a spiritual triumph over brute instincts, a refining of the character of individuals and nations, and never a hoarding of generally useless and often harmful *treasures*, quite erroneously so-called.

"I should feel inclined to designate our age as having achieved the *mechanization* of humanity, rather than the *civilization* of man."

Miss Eva Quezada Acharan, who is still true to those tenets of progressive morality, which were published in the *Nursing Record* of 1904, and translated into German by a leading Berlin paper in the same year, is thoroughly doubtful of the final efficacy of our metallic system of international unity and understanding, and looks forward to the rise of far nobler forces for insuring a permanent cosmic brotherhood.

Miss Quezada has commissioned me to give hearty greetings to the British Nurses and sincere congratulations on their brave progress. She especially wished me to remember her to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, whose wonderful work she thoroughly appreciates.

LINA MOLLETT.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

The League of Sister Tutors.

Extracts from letters written by Sister Tutors *re* Central Preliminary Schools for intending probationers and the splitting of the Preliminary State Examination.

Central Preliminary Training School

Would give—

(a) Standardisation of teaching methods in all Hospitals concerned.

(b) The responsibility for the choice of candidates for the Nursing profession into the hands of the head of the Central Preliminary Training School.

(c) Central Preliminary Training Schools would lessen the expenses of individual Hospitals and thus leave them with more money in hand which might well be used in increasing the salaries of the trained staff.

(d) They would ensure a definite standard of proficiency in all nurse candidates.

Preliminary State Examination.

(a) The Preliminary State Examination should only be taken after a nurse has entered hospital for the following reasons:

What ideas can girls of 17 years have on subjects required for Training for such a serious profession?

Also during the first few months in hospital one is able to judge whether a girl is sufficiently interested in her duties.

Theory cannot be taken apart, it must be applied in any profession.

Age for Training.

Girls of 19 years are far too young to take responsibility, and when finished training at an early age are often given posts in preference to older and more experienced Nurses and thus unemployment is raised.

Unemployment amongst Nurses.

This would fall rapidly if in the larger institutions, all grades were given the option of Pensions at 55 years and these were made compulsory at 60 years. Nursing Homes should be compelled to employ only Registered Nurses.

[The standardisation of teaching methods should be effected by the General Nursing Council enforcing a prescribed scheme of training in recognised hospitals.—ED.]

NOTICES.

AS THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is a monthly paper the Editor will be greatly obliged if items of news which the readers desire included are sent to her as early as possible, as they often arrive just after the Journal has gone to press.

"THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING" AND THE "MIDWIFE" SUPPLEMENT

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PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JULY.

Name the diseases which can be conveyed by food. What precautions can be taken to prevent the spread of disease in this way?

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