

AN IMPORTANT ADVANCE IN INFANT FEEDING.

The superiority of maternal over artificial feeding of infants is not open to question, but under modern conditions the latter type of feeding is adopted in a large proportion of cases. It becomes necessary, therefore, to select a substitute which, in its physiological effects, will approximate as closely as possible to human milk.

The vitamin content of cow's milk varies within fairly wide limits, depending as it does on the nutrition of the animal from which it is obtained. Milk mixtures may, therefore, be insufficiently rich in vitamins to meet the high vitamin requirements of the infant's organism. To prescribe additional vitamins in the form of orange-juice, cod-liver oil, etc., involves the possibility that the mother may not, for various reasons, adequately carry out instructions.

When the child reaches the age of five to six months, the reserve of mineral salts, such as iron, with which it was endowed at birth, becomes exhausted, and milk alone cannot supply its need in this respect. As a result, such conditions as nutritional anæmia are prone to develop.

The very definite advantages of adding a proportion of vegetable substances to the infant's dietary has for some time been recognised by pædiatricians. Such a procedure ensures a rich daily supply of all the important mineral salts as well as the necessary vitamins. A further important advantage is that the cellulose content exerts a stimulating effect on peristalsis, thus promoting the habit of normal bowel evacuation.

In practice, however, certain obvious disadvantages are associated with the home preparation of vegetables for use in the infant's dietary. They cannot be given in the raw state, and, even when cooked, they must be very finely sieved in order to avoid irritation of the infant's digestive tract. Cooking, moreover, is liable to destroy much of the vitamin content, while the mineral salts are dissolved and frequently poured away in the water in which the vegetables are boiled. In many cases the use of vegetables prepared in the home has been found to give rise to digestive disorders and intestinal irritation.

In order to overcome these disadvantages a great amount of careful research has been carried out in the Wandet laboratories. As a result, there has been evolved a completer system of vegetable feeding from birth. This has been achieved by the introduction of two foods—"Veguva" No. 1 Vegetable Milk Food for infants from birth, and "Veguva" No. 2 Vegetable Adjuvant for infants in later months.

"Veguva" No. 1 is prepared for use by adding water and the infant is placed on this food at birth. "Veguva" No. 1 forms the complete diet of the infant until the fourth month, at which time partial feeding with "Veguva" No. 2 is commenced. "Veguva" No. 2 is prepared for use by adding milk. It is introduced into the infant's dietary by replacing one or more of the "Veguva" No. 1 feeds with "Veguva" No. 2 until three bottles of "Veguva" No. 2 are given per day.

The system of "Veguva" feeding makes available the very valuable nutritive and protective properties of vegetables throughout the whole of infancy. In addition, the infant is introduced to starch and cellulose quite safely at an early age, thus materially assisting the transition from a purely milk to a mixed diet.

"Veguva" is prepared by Messrs. R. Wander, Ltd. (the makers of Ovaltine), at their works, laboratories and farms, at King's Langley, Hertfordshire.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

British Women who Lose Their Nationality.

Lord Alness, addressing the conference in London of the British Commonwealth League, a women's organisation, said that if a British woman married an alien she lost her nationality, but if an alien woman married a British subject she adopted her husband's nationality if she so desired. The law brought hardship, indignity, and often tragedy to British women. The conference adopted a resolution calling on the Empire Governments to remove this disability.

Representatives of 26 women's organisations have decided to launch a nation-wide agitation for the reform of the law dealing with the position of British women married to aliens. Lord Alness, sponsor of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill which came before the House of Lords last July, said that in view of the international situation the need for legislation to remedy the existing state of affairs was immediate and urgent. It was a scandal, he declared, that British-born women married to aliens were debarred from national service in this country while aliens married to British subjects were eligible. Unanimous support was given to a resolution urging the Government to adopt the Bill introduced in the House of Lords by Lord Alness last July "with the utmost speed."

Gift of Hughenden.

Mr. W. H. Abbey, of Sedgwick Park, Horsham, Sussex, who bought the Hughenden Estate, Bucks, about a year ago, has arranged to establish a permanent memorial there to the great Earl of Beaconsfield, whose home it was. He has given the house, the heirlooms, and some 170 acres of land, to a Disraelian trust, subject to the raising of a sufficient endowment to make the gift self-supporting.

Hughenden was the favourite resort of the Earl of Beaconsfield when he was Prime Minister. He frequently entertained Queen Victoria there and his grave is in the churchyard nearby—a place of pilgrimage for those of us who remember his magnificent services to the England he loved.

The Spirit of St. Joan.

At the Joan of Arc commemoration ceremonies recently celebrated at Rouen, Mr. C. Bullitt (the United States Ambassador), paid a tribute to the moral and material strength of the French people. "Since 1914," he said, "I have seen many peoples facing the bitterest realities. Never have I seen a people face danger with a more admirable spirit than that of the French nation to-day. From one end of the country to the other one cannot find a single human being who wants war. There is no hatred, no desire for other people's possessions; only the desire to live and let live in peace. But from the seamen of the north to the cultivator of the south, from the worker of the east to the wine-grower of the west, each has risen to the level of the Fatherland's need, and looks to the future without fear, with serenity, without hatred, ready to offer his life.

"The unity and serenity of France to-day do honour to the human race. And if, as I believe, peace is to be saved, the French can truly say that without their courage and their unity it would never have been possible."

An exhibition of Royal and historic treasures is taking place at 145, Piccadilly, the King's old home, in aid of the Heritage Craft Schools for Crippled Children, Chailey, Sussex. It is a great success. The Royal Mementos Section of the British College of Nurses greatly interests its members.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)