

approximates 3 per cent. which is the amount under Government standards that ordinary milk should contain.

By using milk with a high fat content the percentage of protein becomes correct after equal quantity dilution and also the percentage of fat is correct.

With these points settled, good clean cow's milk is suitable for consumption by babies, being as near as possible the equivalent to human milk.

"Good Clean Milk" are the operative words to observe. There is a large quantity of commercial milk sold today throughout the country which could be labelled "suspect." The Government fully realises the dangers of dirty milk production and its veterinary departments are carrying out inspections of milk and animals throughout the country constantly.

To ensure that disease free pure fresh milk is obtained, it should be stipulated that it comes from accredited dairies or farms who obtain their supplies from tubercular tested cows. Most large distributive undertakings supply this guaranteed milk in bottles sealed with special coloured caps. It costs a little more, up to one penny extra per pint, but when this cost is weighed in the balance against the health of the baby it is not expensive.

If all mothers and nurses demanded this guaranteed milk for their little charges there would eventually be no such thing as dirty disease ridden milk and the health of the babies who have to be fed artificially in the first few weeks of their lives would benefit accordingly.

To H.M. Queen Elizabeth on her 50th Birthday.

God bless you on your birthday,
And grant you many more,
Accompanied with blessings
From the great Father's store.

Through fifty years led safely,
Right to life's end He'll guide ;
Be joy or pain your portion,
He'll e'er with you abide.

A Scottish subject of eighty-three
Fervently wishes today to be
The nicest birthday you've ever seen—
And many more—beloved Queen !

JESSIE HOLMES, S.R.N.,
British Home for Incurables,
Streatham, S.W.16.

My ideal Nurse, what should she be ?
One filled with patience and sympathy ;
With a heart of love tha's willing to care,
Other folks' burdens, to lighten and share ;
To be thorough and earnest, loyal and true ;
To do to your patients as they should to you
To be gentle to all sufferers, whatever disease,
Remembering ye do it to Christ when ye do it to these.

JESSIE HOLMES.

Nursing Echoes.

A CHARMING BROCHURE has just been issued by the War Office and the Central Office of Information setting forth conditions, etc., of how Registered Nurses may become Officers in the Regular Army.

The opening page reminds Nurses that the "Lady with the Lamp" was the pioneer of Army Nursing, followed by further information of conditions and salaries in Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, all of which is accompanied by fascinating illustrations, that of Queen Mary, Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps, at a passing-out parade, being most arresting.

We hope this little booklet will inspire many Registered Nurses to respond to the call of our country.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH has announced the membership of the Central Health Services Council and Standing Advisory Committees, upon which we find the name of ONLY ONE State Registered Nurse—Miss C. H. Alexander, O.B.E., S.R.N., S.C.M., the much esteemed Matron of the London Hospital, and the Vice-Chairman of the present General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

When we realise that there are approximately 156,000 registered nurses in this country, we consider the appointment of ONE Registered Nurse very meagre.

Serving on the Standing Nursing Advisory Committee, we still find only the name of Miss Alexander, together with Horace Joules, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.(Lond.) ; the Hon. A. J. P. Howard, C.V.O. (London) ; and Professor R. A. F. Picken, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.(Cardiff), who, at one time, was a member of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

Looking to the Standing Maternity and Midwifery Advisory Committee we find NOT ONE Nurse or Midwife appointed to this Committee, which is constituted as follows :—Miss Janet Aitken, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P. (London) ; A. W. Bourne, Esq., M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. (London) ; Wilfred Vivian Howells, Esq., M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Swansea) ; Mrs. Dorothy Thurtle (London) ; Clement Willoughby Walker, Esq., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Cambridge) ; and Councillor W. Onions, J.P. (Blackley, Manchester).

This is all of a piece and not surprising, in the present general de-grading of the Nursing Profession, that the status of Midwives is completely ignored in this connection.

When we recall the unjust conditions to which they are subjected by the National Health Service Act, 1948, under which the Midwives feel it is intended that, ultimately, their responsibility will be taken over by the medical practitioner and the reversion of their status to that of maternity nurse will be inevitable, this unjust legislation must be deleted from the Act, or the skilled midwife will quickly disappear.

We wonder who is responsible for the appointment of members to these important Committees, and upon what qualifications those appointed are selected.

In consideration of the thousands of members serving their country in the two professions, Nursing and Midwifery, surely they are worthy of more than one voice for the Nurses, and some expert advice on behalf of the Midwives.

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