

largely supplied for hospital use in South Africa. An apparatus was shown for the treatment of phthisis by the vapours of Igazol, together with specimens of Igazol. Tansan, a Japanese natural tonic table water, was also shown at this stand. Bovril, Limited, 152 Old Street, E.C., displayed a variety of their bovril preparations, including extracts of beef and liquor carnis (raw meat juice). The adjoining stall was that of Virol, Limited, 152 Old Street, E.C., on which was shown "Virol," which consists of the proteids fats and salts of beef and eggs, beef marrow and malt extract. At this stall a list was exhibited of hospitals where this preparation has been used. Messrs. Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, Limited, 9 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C., gave an attractive display of "Lemco," the renowned extract of beef, Peptarnis—peptone of beef—and their new meat beverage, "Oxo," which contains a high percentage of the essential properties of beef. The cost of "Oxo" being low its introduction to hospitals would effect considerable economy. Messrs. G. Nelson, Dale and Co., Limited, 14 Dowgate Hill, E.C., gave an exhibit of "Hipi," a mutton essence, which is an agreeable change from beef extracts in the diet of invalids. It has been found an excellent article of diet in cases of gastric ulcer. Messrs. J. G. Cox, Limited, Eastcheap Buildings, E.C., exhibited their sparkling gelatine, which is asserted to be free from chemicals, and therefore safe for administering with wine, beef tea, &c. Cerebos, Limited, Newcastle-on-Tyne, had a large display of Cerebos salt, which contains the mixed phosphates as found in wheat bran, and is therefore a valuable dietetic.

Messrs. Cadbury Brothers, Limited, Bournville, near Birmingham, exhibited their cocoa, which is renowned for its purity.

Messrs. Marshall and Elvy, Limited, 45 New Oxford Street, W.C., gave an exhibit of Courvoisier's brandy, which enjoys a high reputation, and is specially suited for medical purposes; and Satinette, a new stimulant resembling gin, which is doubly distilled and matured by age. Messrs. Stephen Smith & Co., Bow, E., displayed Hall's wine, Keystone burgundy, and Keystone beef wine, which are already familiar to the public. South Australian wines, of the "Orion" brand, were shown. These wines have attained a considerable sale in this country, and their purity is guaranteed by the certificate of the Government of South Australia.

A variety of temperature charts were shown by Messrs. Wodderspoon and Co., 7 Searle Street, W.C., who are well known among the members of the medical and nursing professions in this connection.

EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

[Our Correspondents are reminded that prolixity is a great bar to publication, and that brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion.]

THE WARMING OF HOSPITALS.

To the Editor of *The Hospital*.

SIR,—Having just read the able review of the plans of the Victoria Hospital, Belfast, in your issue of June 22nd, and having much interest in everything connected with hospitals and asylums, I would ask your leave to supplement what your reviewer has stated as objections to the hot-air system of warming and ventilation. He truly says that equability of temperature is not, with certainty, a thing so greatly to be desired as some people imagine. It might have been added that the most delicate consumptives may inhale air of almost any degree of coldness with advantage provided the surface of the body be kept warm by sufficient clothing; indeed,

this is really the guiding principle of the modern treatment of phthisis, and it is equally true of many other diseases.

Ventilation and warming by propulsion was, I believe, introduced by Desaguliers in 1734. Modifications were tried by Hales and by Arnott; but all fell into disuse, oddly enough to be revived during the last decade or so, and in some institutions the unfortunate inmates are at the present day forced to warm their bodies with the air they breathe, a system as disgusting as it is unscientific.

It is almost in vain that this system has been deprecated. Wilson says the "balance of evidence is most decidedly in favour of" extraction; and Parkes states that "for hospitals natural ventilation certainly seems the proper plan." Corfield says, "heating should be done by means of radiant heat, and not by means of air previously warmed." Leeds, of New York, writes strongly against heated air systems, and declares that "it is that dry, lifeless, withering, debilitating, poisoned stuff with which most of our houses and public buildings are filled and warmed" which is injuring the health of the American people. Stevenson says, "to make air hot enough to be the sole means of heating spoils it for breathing." More recently Dr. Jones, after much experience of the Plenum system at the large asylum at Claybury has lifted up his voice against it.

The constant breathing of this "lifeless" air is sure to cause enervation among the patients, and it is quite time that medical men protested against its introduction to hospitals as the sole means of warming. As a carefully-watched and jealously-guarded auxiliary to open fireplaces, it, or some other system, is not only permissible, but may be very useful at times.

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD GREENE.

SCRAPS AND GLEANINGS.

THE total amount collected on Hospital Sunday in Sheffield was £2,042.

THE building and equipment of the Totnes Cottage Hospital have cost £2,220, towards which £2,146 has been received.

THERE were 8,807 attendances during last year at the Glasgow Ear Hospital, being an average of five attendances for each of the 1,658 patients.

THE treasurer of the Rochdale Infirmary has received a cheque in payment of a legacy of £50, less duty, bequeathed to the institution by the late Mrs. Emma Wood, of 140 Drake Street.

THE cost of the new ward and additions to the Alexandra Hospital at Woodhall Spa is about £2,000. This increased accommodation enables 30 patients to be treated.

DURING 1900 the sum of £2,694 was contributed by the employees of 384 firms to the Bradford Joint Hospital Fund: the total amount of contributions received for this Fund was £13,000, while the expenditure was £16,000.

LADY LLANGALTOCK has conceived the excellent idea of a children's memorial to Queen Victoria, which is to take the form of providing a children's cot in the Newport County Hospital (Monmouthshire), the cost of which is to be met by the children contributing a penny or more according to circumstances.

THE enlargements to be made at the Quarrier Sanatoria for Consumption give ten additional beds. The total cost of the Sanatoria, including these enlargements, will be £11,395, all of which has been given by anonymous friends. These sanatoria are for the use of females only from any part of the country; 80 patients can be treated at one time, and £8,000 per annum is needed for maintenance.

AS a result of the fortnight's inquiry that the honorary staff of the Royal Portsmouth Hospital have been holding in connection with the alleged abuse of the out-patient department, the committee have come to the conclusion that a large proportion of the persons who obtain tickets are in a position to pay for assistance from private practitioners. Subscribers are asked to exercise the greatest care in the issue of tickets.

THE STUDENT OF MEDICINE.

APPOINTMENTS.

James W. Allen, M.B.Glasg., appointed Physician Glasgow Royal Infirmary. G. A. Barr, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., appointed Medical Officer to the Isle of Wight Union Workhouse. H. S. Elworthy, F.R.C.S., appointed Casualty Officer to the Great Northern Central Hospital. E. F. Eyre, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Edin., appointed Medical Officer to the Islington Parish Workhouse, Cornwallis Road.