

that more rigorous measures were taken to stop this indiscriminate sale.

*The recent Child Murders in Edinburgh.*

The sentence of death passed on Jessie King, the Stockbridge murderess, will make those who trade on the weaknesses of their fellows more careful for a time of the means they adopt to get rid of the children they take (for a consideration) to "rear." Neglect, cold, and starvation, though not so prompt in their action, are often equally efficacious in the long run as strangulation or some similar "happy despatch." Until, however, more stringent measures are taken to protect these unhappy children of erring parents, means will be found to remove them quietly, under the aegis of the doctor and his certificate if possible, but without such protection if necessary. There are always hardened natures, often associated with a somewhat low order of intellect, willing to run a considerable amount of risk for the sake of obtaining the premium for the adoption of a child; and until the responsibilities of the baby farmer are brought home to her more forcibly and more continuously than they are at present, and until measures are taken to supervise and provide for the safety of children consigned to the care of others, the mortality upon baby farms will continue to be criminally high.

Edinburgh, Feb. 19th.

DUBLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

*The Conjoint Scheme: Examiner in Chemistry.*

DR. WALTER G. SMITH has resigned his post of examiner in Chemistry and Physics under the Conjoint Scheme of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. An election for his successor will take place at a meeting of the Fellows of the College of Physicians on March 1st, and it is probable the selection will lie between Dr. Cosgrave and Dr. Bewley.

*Certifying Factory Surgeons.*

A meeting of factory surgeons has been convened for to-morrow, the 20th inst., at the Royal College of Surgeons, by Dr. C. F. Moore. The meeting is held, probably, in consequence of the recent deputation to the Home Secretary asking that the office of factory surgeon might be dispensed with. It is understood that the influence of the Home Secretary will be exerted on behalf of the manufacturers, and in consequence the factory surgeons may be expected to take the necessary steps to protect their interests.

*Rotunda Lying-in Hospital.*

The Dublin corporation have very ill-advisedly refused to continue the annual grant of £300 to this admirably conducted institution. The question at issue, sad to say, is a religious one, but Sir George Owens has pointed out that the Roman Catholic patients always had their clergyman at call, and that recently two Roman Catholic gentlemen had been elected to the board of governors.

*Dental Hospital of Ireland.*

The annual meeting was held on the 16th inst., presided over by Mr. Henry Fitzgibbon, President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Last year 10,000 patients were treated, at a cost, including medicine, appliances, and establishment charges, of less than fivepence for each case. As the present premises in York-street are insufficient, the committee, at the instance of the professorial staff, intend to make an appeal to the public for funds in order to build suitable premises, with well-lighted operating-rooms, so that a larger number may be treated at one time. The amount required for building a thoroughly efficient dental hospital is about £3000, and, in order to defray a portion of this sum, the committee have arranged to organise a large fancy fair to be held towards the close of the year. Dr. Kidd, in moving the adoption of the report, said that only recently dentistry had become a profession. It was now one of the learned professions, and an essentially important branch of surgery. The dental profession in Ireland had always held a high and prominent position among them; their leading dentists were Fellows of their College, and had been long before dentistry assumed the rank it had recently attained. Their dentists were highly educated men—educated as surgeons. The report was adopted.

The many friends of Mr. Wm. I. Wheeler will be gratified to learn that he has now recovered from his recent severe illness.

Dr. Hatchell, one of the present inspectors of lunatic asylums, has resigned.

Dublin, Feb. 19th.

PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

*Over-pressure in Children.*

IN a note recently published by Professor Charcot on "over-pressure," the author asserts that intellectual or cerebral overwork does not exist in children under sixteen years of age. A child, he says, can only make the amount of intellectual efforts of which he is capable. If he has programmes too overcharged to fulfil, he simply does not fulfil them; if one insists on cramming his memory with crude facts, no result whatever is obtained; but this does not in any way affect the brain of the child, the passiveness of which is complete, and the indifference absolute. On the other hand, according to the Professor, "over-pressure manifests itself only in youths above sixteen or eighteen years. It is characterised by a number of nervous troubles, principally by a pain in the occipital region, which extends down to the back of the neck, and goes up again in front of the ears. This over-pressure is seen in pupils of the superior branches of study, in men of letters who write much, in political men who are or who believe themselves to be overwhelmed with responsibilities, in men of business &c. who lose their sleep, but never in the pupils of our lycées and colleges."

*Experimental Diabetes in Animals.*

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences, MM. Arthaud and Butte read a note on the pathogeny of diabetes, and the following is the conclusion to which their researches have led them: "It is possible, by centrifugal irritation of the vagus, to reproduce in animals divers varieties of clinical diabetes, sometimes insipid, sometimes azoturic, sometimes glycosuric, according to individual predispositions, absolutely as in man." The authors added that, from a clinical point of view, their personal researches permitted them to verify on nearly all points the analogy of the experimental malady with spontaneous diabetes, for which they adopt without reserve the neuropathic theory.

Professor Germain Sée also read a paper entitled "Researches in Experimental Diabetes in the Dog, and on the Methods of Treatment of Diabetes in general." In conjunction with M. E. Gley, the experimenters have succeeded, by an ingenious method of exciting the central portion of the vagus, in inducing in animals diabetes having all the ordinary characteristics of the disease. They then submitted the animals thus rendered diabetic to divers drugs in order to judge of their action and to endeavour to obtain some light as to the nature of this glycosuria thus artificially produced. The employment of the bicarbonate of soda and of arsenic proved inefficacious. The bromide of potassium produced a slight diminution of the glucose, but the attenuation was rendered more marked by the use of antipyrin according to a new treatment. Properly administered, antipyrin lowered the amount of sugar in a dog from 13 grammes to 5 grammes. By the aid of curved lines the daily modifications of the elimination is graphically shown to be irregular. Finally, Professor Sée experimented directly with antipyrin on diabetic patients, and obtained good effects from this treatment. Bearing in mind the general action of antipyrin, which diminishes the irritability of the nervous system, as shown by MM. Sée and Gley, it may be asked whether diabetes is not produced by some nervous deviation of nutrition, and more by its exaggeration than by its slackening.

*Medical Competitive Prizes.*

The Minister of the Interior has placed at the disposal of the Academy of Medicine the sum of 1000 francs, to be given as a prize to the author of the best paper on "The Education of the Organs of Sense, of Sight, and of Hearing in the First and Second Period of Childhood." The papers should be addressed to the Academy of Medicine before March 1st, 1890. The usual academic rules and forms are to be observed. The Faculty of Medicine of Paris, on the report of a commission formed by Professors Potain, Jaccoud, Grancher, and Strauss, has awarded the Prix Lacaze, of the