

Important Price Reduction

The steady increase in the sale of B. Acidophilus Emulsion, consequent upon its demonstrated efficiency in the treatment of chronic intestinal putrefaction, has brought production to the point where we are able to reduce its price to the patient by no less than FIVE SHILLINGS per bottle. The old price was 12s. 6d. On and after December 1st, the price will be

B. ACIDOPHILUS EMULSION (MORBACT)

7s. 6d. per standard 12-oz. bottle.

Both in hospital and private practice, the reimplantation of a healthy colony of *Bacillus acidophilus* in the bowel, evidenced by regular examination of the faeces, has been proved to be most useful in cases of constipation, mucous colitis, dysentery

INTESTINAL STASIS

The *Prescriber* says: "B. Acidophilus Emulsion is a very elegant emulsion and extremely palatable; under the microscope it shows a heavy suspension of the bacillus. The combination is novel and distinctly ingenious, and the preparation should find favour as a remedy for constipation and intestinal troubles."

B. ACIDOPHILUS EMULSION (Morbact) is the **most economical** form of acidophilus therapy, and it is hoped that the large reduction in price will bring it within the scope of every practice. It can be obtained on prescription from your usual chemist, or direct from the sole manufacturers:

E. H. SPICER & CO. LTD.

72, Wigmore Street, London, W.1

THE Central Midwives Board for England and Wales, after an experience of nearly a quarter of a century, in which attacks of pemphigus neonatorum have occurred in the practice of midwives, affecting several children, with a large percentage of fatal results, felt that the verbal description of the affection failed to carry a picture of the disease to those who read it, and that nothing but a coloured drawing was likely to be effectual. It is therefore circulating a pamphlet with such a drawing of the disease to all practising midwives.

THE Ministry of Health has issued to local authorities amended regulations dealing with condensed milk and dried milk. These are designed to secure that in the labelling of such milks greater prominence should be given to the words "unfit for babies," which shall also be printed on the outside of any wrapper enclosing the tins. These regulations come into force on September 1st, 1928, except in so far as they concern importations of condensed milk, when they become effective on May 1st.

UNDER Section 2 of the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, the employment of women and young persons in painting buildings with lead paint is prohibited as from November 19th, 1927, except in the case of women so employed at the date of the passing of the Act (December 15th, 1926). The section does not, however, apply to (a) persons employed as apprentices under arrangements approved by an Order of the Secretary of State, or (b) women or young persons employed in such special decorative or other work, not of an industrial character, as may be excluded by an Order of the Secretary of State. The Home Secretary has now made an Order covering both points. Copies may be purchased either through any bookseller or directly from H.M. Stationery Office.

DR. VON PIRQUET, director of the Children's Clinic, University of Vienna, at a recent meeting in London in connexion with the Save the Children Fund, described the great progress in Vienna in the prevention and treatment of disease in children. It was now becoming clear that those who had been rescued during the famine years after the war would not be crippled for the remainder of their lives, as some had feared, since in most cases an almost normal state of health had been regained. Child welfare institutions had multiplied in Vienna and were doing valuable work, particularly in connexion with tuberculosis. Rickets, which had been very prevalent in Austria in the years after the war, was now being rapidly overcome, and its eradication in the near future was probable.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

All communications in regard to editorial business should be addressed to **THE EDITOR, British Medical Journal, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.**

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone unless the contrary be stated. Correspondents who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names, not necessarily for publication.

Authors desiring REPRINTS of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL must communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, on receipt of proofs.

All communications with reference to ADVERTISEMENTS, as well as orders for copies of the JOURNAL, should be addressed to the Financial Secretary and Business Manager.

The TELEPHONE NUMBERS of the British Medical Association and the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are MUSEUM 9361, 9362, 9363, and 9364 (internal exchange, four lines).

The TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES are:

EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, Aitiology Westcent, London.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), Articulate Westcent, London.

MEDICAL SECRETARY, Medisecra Westcent, London.

The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin (telegrams: *Bacillus, Dublin*; telephone: 4737 Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 6, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 24361 Edinburgh).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

PREVENTION OF SCABIES.

DR. AGNES SAVILL (London, W.) writes: In your issue of November 12th (p. 926) a colleague writes to ask how she can get rid of a recurring scabies infection. She is right in attributing the recurrence to reinfection through the clothes. Especially does the parasite linger in the linings of the cuffs and collars of coats, staff dresses, and woolly jumpers. The only method of sure

disinfection is to send all these garments to the public authorities to deal with as they deal with the clothes of patients who have had infectious fevers. By such means I have never failed to arrest recurring scabies.

COLD HANDS.

"C. R. T." recommends "W. G." to try gauntlets made from sheepskin. He can thoroughly recommend them as warm; they wear much better than anything else he knows and resist wet. He has a pair with the wool inside, skin outside as far as the wrist, while for the gauntlet part the wool is outside; price 17s. 6d.

INCOME TAX.

Expenses of Office.

"C. J. D." was appointed as a half-time medical officer to a local authority, "it being understood that the other half of his time was to be devoted to studying for the Diploma of Public Health." Can he deduct the expenses in connexion with the course from his emoluments?

* * The matter is arguable, but, on the whole, we think the balance is against "C. J. D." What he has to establish is that the expenses of the study were incurred wholly, exclusively, and necessarily in the performance of the duties of his medical officership. Admitting that the study is a condition annexed to the appointment, we think that that is of itself insufficient to support the proposition that the expenses were incurred in the performance of the duties. The fact that the work of the appointment involves only half time is probably a fatal point against the claim.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

MENSTRUAL "UNCLEANLINESS."

DR. ALEX. E. ROCHE (London, W.1) writes: Colonel Giles (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 5th, p. 852) says that he knows by actual experience that hams prepared by menstruating women are uneatable. (1) Are all hams prepared by non-menstruating women eatable? (2) Does uneatable ham cause Colonel Giles to institute gynecological inquiries? (3) Have large numbers of hams prepared by menstruating and non-menstruating women been compared? (4) Does leucorrhoea or gonorrhoea render hams "high"?

"DILATED" HEART.

"M.D., D.P.H." writes: Two recent cases of lads of about the same age were recently brought to my notice as having "dilated" hearts. The pronouncement of a "dilated" heart comes as a shock to parents. One would be passed as a first-class life in any insurance office; the other, after an attack of influenza, had "missed" beats and was stamped as a "dilated" heart due to smoking. The term appears to be loosely used. Dilatation implies a stretching-out—an over-capacity. Hypertrophy does not necessarily exist with dilatation, but is frequently super-added. The two terms in the medical sense are not synonymous. It is doubtful if true "dilatation" occurs in young healthy hearts, though in the young athlete (one of the cases) hypertrophy could exist. The term "dilated," as used by some doctors, should be explained to parents.

A DISCLAIMER.

DR. DOUGLAS GUTHRIE (Edinburgh) writes: Recently my attention was drawn to an advertisement issued by a firm of manufacturing chemists, in which a passage from a paper published by me in the medical press was introduced in such a way as to leave the impression that one of their preparations was recommended by me. I have no knowledge of the preparation advertised, and the use of my name was entirely unauthorized. Following a protest made by me the quotation has been withdrawn from the advertisement, but the company declines to offer any apology for its action.

CADBURY'S.

THE receipt of a package of chocolates and cocoa from Cadbury Brothers Ltd. comes as a reminder that it is only a month to Christmas. We are aware that these goods are manufactured under clean and healthy conditions at Bournville, and we have long been of the opinion that if all the factories and workshops of Britain were organized on similar lines we should have been spared a good deal of the industrial unrest and ill-feeling that have done so much harm to the country. As for these samples of tuck, feeding experiments upon the younger members of our staff have been performed with agreeable results.

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, and 43 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 40 and 41.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the Supplement at page 211.