INSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL TEACHERS IN HYGIENE.

B. L.—We believe that the best book to put into the hands of pupil teachers and students in training colleges is A Textbook of the hygiene of school children, by Mrs. Smyth (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Limited. 6d.). The title is descriptive of Physical Exercises for use in Elementary Schools is out of print, but it is embodied with explanatory comments in the Textbook.

ACUTE POISONING AFTER ONE DOSE OF EXALGIN AND

J. EWING HUNTER (Helenburgh) writes: In reply to Dr. R. T. Williamson's inquiry (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 10th), I am able to say that no soda water or other alkaline fluid had been taken after the admission of the tablet above named. I may add that the patient has not yet quite recovered his usual health, and the corners of his mouth are abraded and leaking slightly as though he had swallowed a corrosive poison.

LETTERS, NOTES, Etc.

The widow of a deceased member has informed the editor that she was willing to present a set of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, bound in half-yearly volumes, from the year 1870 to the present time, to a medical library.

GRATIS writes: I have duplicate copies of the following numbers of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, and would be glad to send them to anyone desirous of obtaining them to the point volume:

1895: June 1st, December 7th; 1896: June 6th; 1897: December 8th; 1898: June 11th, December 3rd; 1899: June 2nd, December 20th; 1900: June 16th, December 1st; 1901: June 8th, November 30th; 1902: June 21st, December 13th; 1903: June 11th; 1904: June 3rd.

DR. C. TAIT MATTHEWS (Colwyn Bay) writes: In answer to "Perplexed," in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 3rd, I had in mind a somewhat similar case under my care a year or two years ago. A gentleman, aged 85, suffering from rheumatoid arthritis, had been suffering from "night-waking" from sleep by severe stabbing pains in his heels. There was some thickening of the epidermis over the heels, and this I removed with the aid of a few applications of liquid potassee, revealing several small, dark, black, thin, very unpleasantly thick, and some of them of the form of a layer of rubber film. He also recommended the Ciar termielactea m. It is not known whether the idea of self-preservation would compel motorists to pass crossings, streets, and along tortuous roads at a reasonable rate.

Inflation of Motor Car Tyres.

We have received a communication from the managing director of the Birlar Rubber Co. concerning a view recently expressed by the insurance authority to the effect that the tyres of motor cars should be inflated only at "low pressure;" this belief is stated to be erroneous, because although a very expert driver unconsciously studies moment in and strain at every yard, the average motorist cannot be expected to do so. The criticism of an old-fashioned as to slacks throw away an inevitable but unnecessary strain upon them. Moreover, the car sways and creates a waving motion between the plane of the car and the ground. The hitting is not particularly marked when turning corners at a comparatively fast speed, and the waving motion is of greater strain than when turning on hard tyres. For corresponding reasons side-slip are much more likely to occur when the tyres are soft than when they are properly inflated.

NEWSPAPER MEDICINE.

In a French newspaper, the name of which, as Cervantes says of the place in La Mancha where his hero first saw the light, we do not care to remember, the following remarkable accident is reported: A man who kept a restaurant at Artes was eating potatoes at supper when a piece of one stuck in his throat. It is on record that Samuel Johnson, when eating a potato which he found unpleasantly hot, spat it out into his plate, recollected it, and swallowed it again with a grin of countenance. Apparently, however, the unfortunate restaurateur could not deal with this precautionary measure. Dr. Tomlinson modified this treatment by painting the surface with tincture of iodine only four times a day, the result was a satisfactory action between the potato and the skin peeled off, leaving a healthy surface. Writing six weeks later, he was able to state that there was no recurrence.

MENTALLY DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

R. V. L.—The Midland Counties Asylum, Knowle, near Birmingham, receives cases certified as insane under the Act of 1885. Terms of admission may be obtained from the Secretary and Superintendt., Mr. Williams, Sandwell Hall, West Bromwich, near Birmingham, has recently been opened for mentally defective children not certifiable as insane. Information may be obtained from Mrs. Hume Pinfent, Education Office, Birmingham. A few private homes are also available for the children of parents of means.

CONGREGATIONAL ABOVE OF UTERUS.

DR. E. MACBRAN ROSS, M.R.C.S., Ch.B.Glasg., L.M. Rotunda (Ispahan, Persia), writes: A tall, well-developed Armenian girl of 20 came to consult me complaining of having never menstruated. This was attributed to her by an attack of enteric fever at the age of 14. The breasts were rather larger than usual, and the pubic hair was plentiful. She has several sisters who menstruate normally. She was treated with the usual remedies for amenorrhoea with no result. Finally, on examination under chloroform, the uterine orifice was found to be rather nearer the rectum than normal. The orifice of the vagina was represented by a small aperture, which with difficulty admitted the point of a fine probe, which could only be passed about 2 in. The opening was enlarged to admit the tip of the figure, and a dense mass of fibrous tissue was then encountered. With a catheter in the bladder and a finger in the rectum no trace of a uterine body could be felt, and no stigmata of pregnancy could be palpated. I have to thank Dr. M. S. F. Ayouan, in whose practice the case occurred, for permission to report it.

“A CASE OF POISONING BY FORMAMINT TABLETS.”

In the EPISTEME of September 12th, page 159, there appeared under the above title a short report of a case by Glaser in which it was stated that Dr. S. Bloomfield, of London, had used formamint tablets for a slight sore throat, suffering from extensive and severe skin eruptions and coughing. The patient died within eight days. It seems to us only fair to state that in the Medicinische Klinik of July 12th (in No. 12 of which periodical Glaser's report appears) the editor, Dr. H. H., who says he is responsible for the introduction of formamint, comments that the unpleasant idiosyncrasy forms no general property of the drug. He cites a number of writers as bearing witness to the freedom of this medication, and says that he has found it impossible, even after the most searching examination, to discover any ill effect.

MOTOR CARS AND DUST.

H. N. W. writes: In reference to the interesting correspondence that has taken place in your columns on the subject, it is evident that the whole danger and annoyance arising from motor cars resolves itself into a question of persuading the users to cease smoking. It is quite possible, if they were persuaded to stop smoking, that some of them would go on until they were advised otherwise. But it is clear that the idea is that the law of self-preservation would compel motorists to pass crossings, streets, and along tortuous roads at a reasonable rate.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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Note: Each line contains six words.

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