

people will be aroused to a consciousness of the significance of legislative measures enacted in the interest of health protection.

In the sports section there will be, in connection with the scientific exhibition, a practical demonstration of all classes of sports; moreover, these demonstrations will be utilised in such a way that a most thorough study of the influence of physical exercise upon the human organism will be conducted in a special laboratory according to the very latest improved methods.

Industry, in so far as it is not already represented in combination with the exhibitions of the above-mentioned departments, will form an independent section. The exhibition rooms will be as closely as possible connected with those of the corresponding scientific groups.

The material in the scientific section falls into twelve groups—(1) air, light, soil, and water; (2) settlements and dwellings (including city cleansing); (3) nutrition and food stuffs; (4) clothing, &c., of the body; (5) professions and trades; (6) infective diseases; (7) care of the sick and life-saving; (8) children and adolescents; (9) traffic; (10) military hygiene; (11) hygiene in the tropics; and (12) statistics. Special groups deal with tuberculosis, alcoholism, venereal diseases, cancer, and diseases of the teeth.

From the above outline it will be seen how systematically the work has been arranged, and there can be no doubt that to all interested in hygiene—and who is there who is not?—the exhibition in Dresden will be full of interest and of profit.

NEW PREPARATIONS, &c.

From Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.

“*Soloid*” *Bile-Salt Agar-Agar* (*M'Conkey*).—This is a dry disc which yields *M'Conkey's* medium when boiled in 5 c.c. water. The medium can then be sterilised in the usual way. These soloids are said to keep in condition for long periods, and should be of great service to the physician or bacteriologist who requires to use a few culture tubes only, and at uncertain intervals, for they save the long and tedious processes ordinarily required to prepare media. “*Soloids*” are also supplied for nutrient broth, nutrient gelatin, nutrient agar-agar, and *M'Conkey's* fluid medium.

From Torbet, Limited.

Calsa.—This consists of dry strips of a gelatinous material, which

swells up on long immersion in cold water or on shorter treatment with water at 150° F., while on boiling with water it forms, after cooling, a stiff jelly. In general, it seems similar to agar-agar, and is recommended by the makers for use in chronic constipation, as it forms an indigestible moist mass in the bowel. The price, as compared with agar-agar, seems rather great.

From Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.

“*Digestin.*”—This is a light yellowish powder, which is stated to be derived from a fungus. It is claimed to act both as a proteolytic and as an amyloptic ferment, even in the presence of free HCl. It certainly acts rapidly as an amyloptic ferment in neutral solution, but in the presence of a trace of HCl its action is much diminished. On account of the action on starch it is claimed to be more useful than pepsin or papain.

Obituary.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

It is not too much to say that the whole English-speaking world mourns the death of Miss Florence Nightingale, the champion and heroine of the sick and the wounded soldier. To the present generation her work is a matter of history only. To think and speak of Miss Nightingale is to think and speak of the Crimean War. For once her work accomplished of completely revolutionising the nursing of the sick and wounded, she practically retired from the public gaze.

Florence Nightingale was born on 12th May, 1820, in the Italian city whose name she bore. Of a refined and sympathetic nature, and possessed of ample means, she early directed her attention to the nursing of the sick. She thought of the work of such philanthropists as Howard, and Wilberforce, and Mrs. Fry. The slave had been set free, the vicious and degraded had been cared for, but as yet there had been scarcely any heed given—at least in our country—to those stricken with disease. But in a little German village the systematic training of nurses had been going on since 1836, and Miss Nightingale heard of good Pastor Fliedner and his Deaconess Institution at Kaiserswerth on