

We are glad to note the Canadian development of a food of this kind, which seems likely to be of tremendous value in lowering the excessive rate of infant mortality.

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THE CHARLES H. PHILLIPS CHEMICAL COMPANY (14, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden).—As in previous years, this firm confined its exhibit to two of its products, the one being a compound syrup of quinine, the other a fluid magnesia. The former is known as the *Syrup of Phospho-Muriate of Quinine Compound*, its strong point being that in its preparation the muriate instead of the sulphate of quinine is used, and phosphates instead of hypophosphates. Hence, the preparation being acid, there is no risk of the contained strychnine being thrown down, as sometimes occurs in the case of hypophosphite syrups. It is a pleasant bitter tonic, not productive of headache, and very stable. The fluid magnesia of the firm is termed *Milk of Magnesia*, this being the registered title of an odorless, white, palatable fluid with the physical appearance of milk. It is a hydrated oxide of magnesia, each fluid ounce representing, we understand, magnesium hydrate 24 grains. Under the microscope it is seen to be homogeneous, a fact which supports the firm's statement that their *Milk of Magnesia* is not, as are many magnesia preparations, merely a triturated magnesia suspended by mucilaginous or glycerine solutions. It attributes its special value as a neutralizer of free acids to the fact that it is entirely free from carbonates, and therefore does not give rise to discomforting evolutions of carbonic acid gas. It combines readily with tinctures as well as with iodides and other solutions of salts, and is useful as a suspender of fixed and volatile oils. We have had considerable experience of its use in the diarrhoea of children and in gastric irritability, and consider it an excellent form in which to administer magnesia when indicated in such cases. It may be also substituted for lime-water in the modification of cow's milk. Owing to its persistent alkalinity and tastelessness, it forms a good mouth-wash for use at bedtime.

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S. NEWMAYER, M.D., Philadelphia, Pa., states: Among the varied causes of convulsions, none play a more frequent and important part than autointoxication. They are more frequent in children, due generally to a possible overfeeding,