

THE Prison Congress in Toronto have had some valuable discussions. We cordially support those who are opposed to a tobacco supply for prisoners, which is nothing less than an outrage on honest people, small an item as it involves.

THE suggestions of Archbishop Lynch, to the Prison Congress, are especially notable and very valuable. "Should not men who brutally beat their wives be punished corporally by the lash?" Who will not say, yes? "Could there be any remedy suggested to prevent crime? It is engendered on the streets principally in youth. The youths were condemned to the filthy lanes, and miserable houses, and often with bad fathers and mothers. The children have no place to play or amuse themselves except the streets, and children require amusement and fresh air as much as they do food. The streets with bad companions are their ruin. Lanes and filthy tenement houses are the nurseries of crime. Could there be any remedy suggested to compel landlords to keep their houses and surroundings in proper condition?" Open parks and sanitary houses would undoubtedly prevent crime.

WOODSTOCK, (Ont.), by a large majority it appears, has rejected a by-law for providing a new and necessary water supply. One would suppose that the influence of two "Health Conventions" under the auspices of the Provincial Board of Health, would have given a more desirable result.

A RECENT poisoning case in Philadelphia, according to the American Analyst, has brought to light some startling facts concerning the manner in which the public are deliberately done to death by the unscrupulous food purveyors. A baker named Palmer has been held for trial on the verdict of a coroner's jury, which investigated four cases of death arising from eating buns and cakes made and sold by the prisoner. It was revealed on investigation that Palmer was in the habit of using chromate of lead instead of eggs to give a proper coloring to his wares. The autopsies in the cases showed the deaths to have been produced by chronic poisoning, and it is believed that a dozen other deaths have been caused in the same way.

DR. BÉCHAMP, in the Paris Academy of Medicine, declares that the human econo-

my itself fabricates and eliminates alcohol, independently of any being swallowed. In proof of this he states that he has found alcohol in the urine after some days of fermentation, as also in the parenchyma of the liver and in the muscular substance, previously to putrefaction. An ostrich's egg also may produce two cubic centimetres of absolute alcohol. It is also produced in the *living* economy from the urine of persons who have completely abstained from its use. Milk also contains it, and even substances totally devoid of saccharine matters. M. Gautier observed that from his own researches, he could corroborate the statement made, that living tissues do generate alcohol independently.

#### NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE last number of "The Physician's Leisure Hour," published monthly by Geo. S. Davis, of Detroit, is on Diarrhoea and Dysentery, and is admirably practical. The author, Prof. Palmer, of Michigan University, says: The practical object of all medical investigation, study and teaching, is the prevention, alleviation and cure of disease. As summer diarrhoea, with its closely-allied affections, inflicts so much suffering and is such a frequent cause of premature death, the very great importance of understanding its most successful management, prophylactic and curative—hygienic and medicinal, must at once be apparent. The practical causes of few diseases are better understood and more controllable than those of this, and preventive measures are first to be considered.

MILLENNIAL DAWN is the name of a new book of 350 pages, which we have found exceedingly interesting. Reference was made to it in our August issue as being supplied by Mrs. Lemuels. It is published by the Tower Publishing Co., Alleghany, Penn'a, U.S. The character of the work is fairly indicated by the following extracts from it: "In ignorance of God's plan for the recovery of the world from sin and its consequences, and under the false idea that the nominal church, in its present condition, is the sole agency for its accomplishment, the condition of the world today, after the Gospel has been preached for nearly nineteen centuries, is such as to