

ARTIFICIAL INFANT DIET.—On this highly important subject, Dr. Dawson gives some valuable suggestions in the *Obstetrical Journal*. Regarding the dilution of cow's milk, he says: The addition of water alone does not improve the digestibility of the casein, for it does not dilute it; and when milk is introduced into the stomach, diluted with water, the water is soon taken up and the casein is left as undiluted and unchanged as before the food was given. Nor does the addition of sugar make the coagula any more easy of digestion. The admixture of farinaceous articles with the milk also leads to disastrous consequences. Good cow's milk diluted from one-third to one-half with barley-water, forms one of the best articles of food that can be used for infants when it is necessary to bring them up artificially. If barley cannot be obtained, oatmeal may be substituted, and answers nearly as good purpose. This article produces a real dilution of casein, and renders the coagula much finer and more like the coagula which is found in milk from the mother's breast.

THE SANITARY BUREAU.—After having attempted, at two previous sessions of the House, to carry a like measure, Dr. Brouse has at length succeeded in getting the Dominion Government to consent to a motion for a Select Committee to consider the expediency of asking legislation, with a view to constitute a Bureau of Sanitary Statistics, in connection with one of the Public Departments. The committee is composed of the Hon. Messrs. Holton and Robitaille, Drs. Brouse, Landerkin, Forbes and Christie, and Messrs. Blain, Dymond, Burpee (Chas., N. B.), Scatchard, Flynn, Young, Kerr, and Fiset. We are much pleased to find the members for West and North York are on the committee. Such a Bureau, as proposed, would lay the foundation for, and is essential to, practical and efficient public health laws. The returns of vital statistics, too, would soon, as in Great Britain, become popular topics, and public health would feel a resulting favourable change in public opinion.

AT A MEETING recently of the Northern Counties (Eng.), Association of Medical Officers of Health, Mr. Elliott, the president, said, longer life and better health simply meant an increase in this world's comfort and happiness. That human life could be extended and human health could be improved could no more be doubted than the fact that human life could be shortened or life deteriorated. They all knew that human life—like the quicksilver in a barometer—rose and fell according to certain rules and under certain influences.