"ROLLED OAT" BISCUITS.

(J. CUMMINGS, 549 AND 551, HARROW-ROAD.)

These biscuits need no analysis since the high nutritive value of the oat is well known. The oaten flavour is very pronounced, while the biscuit is desirably crisp and well made.

New Inventions.**NEW ALUMINIUM UTERINE PROBE.**

The gynaecologist will find this form of probe a great improvement on Playfair's, as it will carry sufficient liquid caustic for application to the cervical canal without the necessity for arming with cotton-wool. It possesses the additional advantage of cleanliness, can be used with any

acid, and utilised as an ointment-carrier at the will of the operator. The small disc prevents carbolic acid or other liquids finding their way down to the fingers. Messrs. Arnold and Sons have made the instrument for me exactly as desired.

Cheltenham.

ALEXANDER DUKE, F.R.C.P. Irel.

A NEW STEAM DISINFECTOR.

ALL competent authorities are agreed that in boiling linen and cotton goods, and in sufficiently prolonged exposure of woollen and silk clothing, bedding, &c., to a temperature of 210° to 220° F. in a properly constructed chamber, we have the one unfailing means of disinfection; but that since such exposure to a dry heat involves spoiling, if not destruction, the use of steam is indispensable; and, lastly, that the efficiency of any apparatus depends on its power of ensuring the penetration of the steam so that the interior of mattresses and goods in bulk shall be raised to the same temperature as the surrounding atmosphere of the chamber. Mr. A. B. Reck's disinfectors had been shown to fulfil all these requirements, a thermometer enclosed within sixteen folds of blanket indicating a temperature of 220° F. after fifteen minutes, and one between two mattresses 211° F. in thirty-five minutes; while all the pathogenic microbes experimented on, including those of anthrax, in these positions were invariably killed. His disinfectors are extensively adopted in Denmark, Sweden, and elsewhere, and since they were exhibited little more than a year ago at the annual Congress of the Sanitary Institute at Liverpool they appear likely to become serious rivals of those made in this country. Mr. Reck, who has been on a visit to London, has recently introduced several improvements which have had the effect of lowering the price. The steam is still condensed by the cold-water shower discharged over a "baffle" or arched screen, which protects the articles contained in the steam oven; but while the ultimate drying was formerly conducted in a separate chamber this has now been dispensed with, so that the transfer of the goods is no longer called for and the additional pipes, &c., are done away with. The lower two-thirds of the cylindrical oven is enclosed in a jacket filled with water to within a foot of its upper border and then sealed by a screw-plug, the enclosed air rendering a safety-valve superfluous. The water contained in this jacket is raised to near the boiling point by the heat of the steam in the chamber, and when the process has been continued long enough for disinfection the steam is cut off, and after the cold shower has been applied the door of the oven is partially opened and the drying is effected by the heat given off by the water in the jacket. Another improvement consists in the complete separation of the boiler from the rest of the apparatus, so that when weakened by the action of the fire it can be renewed without disturbing the disinfectors, which

will thus need no repairs for many years. A common saddle boiler, such as can be had anywhere, is set in masonry over the furnace, and connected by means of a pipe on either side with a steam drum fixed over the oven. Steam circulates through these pipes between the boiler and the drum, and enters the chamber through a short pipe issuing from the upper surface of the drum. The same improvements have been introduced into the portable disinfectors, with the difference, of course, that the boiler is set in an iron frame instead of in brick. The price of the apparatus, which had been from £50 to £80, according to the size of the oven, inclusive of accessories, has been considerably reduced. We have not seen the revised list, but all information and estimates can be had from the agents in Great Britain, the Blackman Ventilating Company, 63, Fore-street, E.C.

THE WALKER-MILLERAIN RAIN-PROOF FABRICS.

WE have received from Messrs. Rawlinson and Co., 29, Friday-street, Cheapside, numerous specimens of the Walker-Millerain Cycle Cloth. These cloths appear to us to be admirably adapted for the purpose indicated by their trade title. They are soft, elastic, and strong, made of pure wool and the highest quality only weighs twelve ounces per yard, the width of the piece being a yard and a half. Tasteful colours also have been selected for the dyeing, one or two of the fawn and green shades having evidently been prepared with an eye to feminine use. But the great quality claimed for these cloths is that they are rain-proof. This we have put to a very practical test by showering water over them, certainly more liberally than water usually descends upon the wayfarer in a rainstorm, with the result that we consider them practically impervious to showers. The same firm send us a specimen of their "rain-proof sealette," which is a cloth with a very soft, firm, furry face.

NEW BANDAGE ROLLER.

THIS bandage roller, which is known as Henderson's Bandage Roller, is intended to be used with all kinds of bandages to form a solid core for winding the bandage upon. In order to wind a bandage the end with the ties should be

drawn through the slot in the roller so that the bandage projects and the end ties remain packed inside the roller. The bandage can then be wound firmly upon the roller and applied to the limb or joint to be bandaged. By using these rollers bandages may be wound more firmly than is the case when none are used and the bandage can be applied more rapidly and smoothly. Where large numbers of bandages require to be rolled the rollers may be used with a winding machine to which rollers of all sizes are adjusted automatically. Messrs. Arnold and Sons have been appointed as agents for these rollers.

RECOGNITION OF AMBULANCE INSTRUCTION.—

The Prince of Wales, as Grand Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, has approved the selection of Mr. Hugh Jones Roberts, M.R.C.S. Eng., of Pen-y-groes, Carnarvonshire, Captain of H. Company, 2nd V.B. R.W.F., as an Honorary Associate of the Order, and the Queen has graciously sanctioned the enrolment. This distinction has been bestowed upon Mr. Roberts in recognition of his services as Lecturer and Examiner in ambulance work.