

sphincters of the urethra and anus, like the muscular parts of the body generally, relaxed, so that there is incontinence of urine and fœces. This, of course, is a very grave symptom. An equally bad sign is an irregular and very slow pulse, due to the same loss of nerve control.

*Cerebral irritation*, such, for example, as is caused by a splinter of bone pressing into the substance of the brain, is generally shown by the patient being very restless and, if conscious, very irritable; as a rule, the patient is difficult to arouse, but not completely unconscious; the body is usually in a state of complete flexion, that is to say, the knees are drawn up on the abdomen, the legs are drawn up on the thighs, the feet are bent upwards, the arms are drawn across the chest, the forearms and the hands bent inwards on the arms, and the head is bent forward on the chest. In these cases, delirium is more common than complete insensibility. The patient is excessively restless, talks incessantly, often screams or shouts, and attempts to get out of bed, struggling violently when any attempt is made to restrain him.

The golden rule in the Nursing of brain cases is to secure perfect quiet. The surgeon will remove, so far as possible, the causes which irritate or damage the brain tissue, but it then becomes the Nurse's duty to keep the patient at perfect rest, and, in private practice, to carry out the much more difficult duty of preventing injudicious friends from doing irreparable harm to the patient by well meant efforts to "cheer him up." Then, if ice caps or other cooling applications are ordered for the head, it is essential that these should be properly applied; the ice bag, for instance, must not be allowed to become a bag of warm water, and the Leiter's coil must not become empty. The great tendency of all nerve cases to develop bed sores, and the condition of incompetence, to which allusion has already been made, render it imperative that the utmost cleanliness must be observed, and that the skin must be kept scrupulously dry. Indeed, it is well, in these cases, as soon as possible, to place them upon a water or air bed. As they recover, the same quietude continues to be essential. Coals, for example, should always be put on the fire in little paper bags, and the rule never to whisper in the sick room should be more scrupulously observed than usual. Such patients are invariably more irritable, more easily depressed, and more suspicious than ordinary cases, and are usually convinced that if their Nurse converses in a whisper, it is because something too serious for them to hear, concerning themselves, is being said. The paralyses of the limbs or facial muscles, which so frequently follow injuries to the brain, require to be nursed on general principles, and it is in these cases in which the beneficial results of massage and galvanism are most marked.

(To be continued.)

## Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



A Meeting of the Registration Board was held on Friday, May 25th. Mr. Brudenell Carter presided, H.R.H. the President being unavoidably prevented from being present. The applications from the following Nurses were accepted:—

Name.	Certificated at
Mary Davies ... ..	St. George's Hospital.
Flora Lydia Kirwood ...	Hull Infirmary.
Annie Pruett ... ..	Whitechapel & Chippenham Infr.
Edith Atkinson, Matron	Cama Hospital, Bombay.
Edith Eleanor Burrow...	Great Northern Hospital.
Edith Kingsley Corke ..	St. Bartholomew's Hospital (Supt. Out-patient Department, Queen Charlotte's Hospital).
Ada Garnett ... ..	Royal Hants County Hospital,
Sarah G. Lydiard ... ..	Derby Infirmary. [Winchester.
Sarah Newcomb ... ..	St. George's Hospital.
Ada Mary Pearch ... ..	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Annie Spooner ... ..	Royal Free Hospital.
Annie Tisdall ... ..	Western Infirmary, Glasgow.
Frances Torn ... ..	Leicester Infirmary.
Helen Florence Walker	Addington Hospital, Durban.
M. B. Kempe ... ..	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Edith Sayers ... ..	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
Florence Tudor ... ..	Royal Free Hospital.
Rose Reys ... ..	National Hospital and Chelsea Infr.

Miss Grace Gordon, late Hon. Nurse Secretary, has presented a set of beautiful writing table fittings for the use of H.R.H. the President, consisting of a silver inkstand, pen-tray and penholder of most chaste design, and handsome blotter and paper case in rich red morocco, stamped in silver with the Royal Crown.

The formal opening of the new premises by H.R.H. the President took place on Wednesday, May 30th, at 5.30 p.m. The ceremony consisted of (1) Prayer and Address by the Lord Bishop of Ripon, (2) Presentation of Illuminated Address to H.R.H. the President, (3) H.R.H.'s gracious acceptance of the Address, and (4) formal declaration that the premises were open. A large number of members and friends of the Association assembled to witness this most interesting ceremony, further details of which will appear in another column.

A meeting of the Executive Committee took place on Friday, June 1st, at 5 p.m.

The Nurses' Club Room, with all its conveniences for reading, writing, and rest, is now open for the use of Members from 10 to 4. It is hoped that arrangements will shortly be made to provide tea, at a small charge, and also to extend the hours during which members can avail themselves of the comforts of the Club Room specially designed for their enjoyment.

Arrangements have been made for the delivery of Courses of Educational Lectures—to afford a preliminary course of instruction to those who wish to enter the profession of Nursing. The Courses will commence in October, and all particulars may be obtained at the Office, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W.

ALICE RAVENHILL,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

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