

previously healthy breast after, and at the exact site of, a blood clot consequent upon a blow.

Abscesses are most frequent after pregnancy, and especially in cases in which some puerperal disease has occurred, or in which the child has been still-born and measures have not been taken with sufficient care or promptitude to relieve the breast of milk. The treatment, so far as the Nurse is concerned, consists in first poulticing very carefully, until the surgeon can incise the abscess, and then in keeping the wound patent and perfectly clean until the abscess cavity completely closes. Sometimes the hard mass which is left in the breast after this disease, also takes on malignant action, and an ordinary scirrhus or hard cancer is developed. For bruises, cold applications, as a rule, are the most effective, not only in relieving pain, but in checking the extravasation of blood from a ruptured vessel, and also in assisting in the speedy absorption of the clot. If there be neuralgia present, belladonna poultices or plasters usually give relief. It is a good general rule that, whenever there is pain in the breast, it should be properly *suspended*; that is to say, that a soft handkerchief or triangular bandage should be so applied as to lift the organ up and support it. This is especially necessary, of course, when the organ is at all enlarged, either by chronic congestion or by the presence of tumours, but the benefit is obtained whenever pain is present, because then there is almost invariably more or less congestion. In the case of cancer, the only course to adopt is complete removal, and those are the most successful cases—that is to say, those in which recurrence of the disease is least probable—in which the tumour is removed at a very early stage. It is the opinion of most specialists now, that, whenever a tumour of the breast enlarges and gives pain, however simple may be its nature, it should be removed as soon as possible; because in no inconsiderable proportion of cases such growths are known to assume sooner or later a malignant character. When an operation has been performed, it is important to keep the patient, for the first few days, at perfect rest, so as to secure, if possible, union of the wound “by the first intention.”

A most important practical point in the nursing is to prevent undue pressure of the bandage upon the arm and forearm of the affected side, and, as soon as may be, to commence passive movements of the forearm and hand so as to prevent the stiffening of the elbow and wrist, which so frequently follows in these cases, and which sometimes, if the bandage be kept on for too long a time, may result in a condition almost approaching fixation of the joints. Gentle movement of the shoulder joint can be obtained, without injury to the wound, by rotating the arm from the elbow without moving it away from the side, and by this means subsequent trouble with that joint may also be prevented.

## Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



AN adjourned meeting of the Executive Committee took place on Friday, June the 8th, at which Her Royal Highness the President was present, and deputed Sir James Crichton-Browne to take the Chair.

On Wednesday two Sub-Committees met for the discussion of business. Her Royal Highness the President presided.

The next meeting of the Registration Board is summoned for the 22nd inst.

One of the members of the Corporation, who has already been referred to in these columns as being unable to pursue her work as a Nurse on account of serious illness, has for sale a doll which she has dressed herself. This doll is 30 inches tall, and the price complete is 12s. If any reader of the *NURSING RECORD* could find a purchaser of this will they please communicate direct with “Nurse,” 7, Compton Street, Eastbourne. It will be a real help to her if the doll could be sold.

ALICE RAVENHILL,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*



NOTICE has been received by the Secretary of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, that Her Majesty has been pleased to approve the subjoined names selected by the respective bodies to represent them on the Scottish Council for three years:—Edinburgh Town Council—Councillor James Pollard; Glasgow Town Council—Councillor William Stevenson; Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh—Sir Douglas Maclagan, M.D.; Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh—P. H. Maclaren, M.D., P.R.C.S.E.; Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow—James Duncan Maclaren, M.D.; Faculty of Advocates—Right Hon. J. B. Balfour, Lord Advocate; Society of Writers to the Signet—John S. Pitman, W.S.; Scottish Needlework Guild—Miss Harrison; Glasgow Branch—Mrs. Higginbotham; Dundee Branch—A. H.

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