

the ankle, and that this should either take the form of strong boots well laced or buttoned, or of some firm elastic bandage round the joint.

#### BRANALCANE.

AMONGST the multitude of new antiseptic preparations which are continually being introduced, and many of which have undoubtedly considerable advantages over the poisonous and often irritating medicaments formerly employed, praise must be given to one of the most recent. Under the fancy name of Branalcane, Jeyes' Sanitary Compound Co., of 64, Cannon Street, E.C., have introduced a preparation which from our own experience, and from the reports of others, appears to us to have strong claims. It is shown by analysis to be a concentrated solution of a boroglyceride combined with one of the tar products. In the first place, therefore, this fluid is non-poisonous, a fact to which too great an importance can hardly be attached. Considering the many fatalities which have attended the use of the antiseptic preparations of carbolic acid and mercury, we cannot but hope that the day will soon come when such forms are relegated to poison cupboards or the museums of antique curiosities—and there safely retained. It is undeniable that there are safe preparations now obtainable which meet every necessary requirement, and it therefore passes our comprehension why dangerous fluids should still be employed. The practical results obtained by the use of Branalcane are very important. In Diphtheria, and other infectious diseases of the mouth and throat, it is proved that applications of this fluid to the affected surface are followed by rapid and most marked improvement. In view of its constitution, it is possible that its antiseptic power extends below the surface to which it is applied, which in itself is a fact of great practical moment. In the treatment of cases of prurigo, and of chronic eczema, we have found the application give valuable results, relieving irritation speedily and completely, softening and detaching the thickened superficial scales, and undoubtedly forwarding the process of healing. We therefore feel some confidence in predicting that Branalcane will become a popular as well as a valuable addition to the present array of antiseptics.

### The Nursing of the Plague in India.

BEFORE this issue of the NURSING RECORD is in the hands of the majority of its readers, the nurses selected by the India Office for service in India, will have steamed away from the Tilbury Docks in the *Himalaya*, an interesting event of which we hope to give full details next week. Meanwhile it will interest our readers, no doubt, to be made acquainted with the terms upon which the nurses have been engaged by the Indian Government.

#### TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT FOR LADY NURSES TEMPORARILY ENGAGED FOR DUTY IN INDIA.

- (1) Selected candidates to be termed "Lady Nurses."
- (2) Candidates to be between 28 and 35 years of age, and to produce certificates of birth.
- (3) To be examined by the President of the Medical Board (before engagement) as to fitness for service in India.
- (4) To produce certificates of at least three years' training at a hospital in which adult males receive medical and surgical treatment, and in which a nursing staff is maintained. Also to furnish recommendation from the matron of the hospital at which they have been trained.
- (5) Engagement to be for one year, except in case of misconduct or break-down of health. Notice of one month to be given before termination of engagement on the part of Government or the Lady Nurse.
- (6) Free passage by 2nd saloon P. & O. Co.'s steamers to India and back; but resignation within a year, except on account of ill-health, not to entitle to a free return passage from India.
- (7) Pay—Rs.175 per mensem, in addition to free quarters, fuel, lights, and punkah pullers. To commence from date of embarkation to India.
- (8) Outfit allowance of £10.
- (9) Travelling expenses from and to residence in England to port of embarkation (claims for conveyance of baggage to be supported by vouchers). Six hundredweight of baggage allowed.
- (10) To embark for India within *one week* after appointment.

When soldiers are needed for active and dangerous service, it is the picked men of a regiment who are detailed, and the same holds good in nursing. When there is difficult and hard work to be done it is the cream of the profession that is needed, women who have been tried, and not found wanting, who will

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