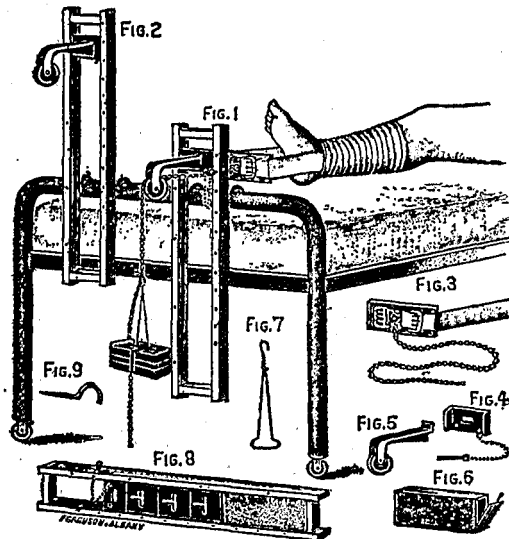


Practical Points.

A Great Convenience

Writing of an appliance which he has designed, Dr. J. N. Clark says:—

Some months ago I saw in the *National Hospital Record* a suggestion that whenever one interested in hospital work discovered an improved method of doing any kind of hospital work it be sent in for publication, and then followed a most practical suggestion. After some years of work and experiment, I have solved a problem which I believe will be found a very great convenience. I provide a simple oak frame into which is securely packed everything needed to apply a Buck's Extension. The frame can be



picked up and carried to the bed and the pulley securely attached to any bed without scratch or mar. It can be placed at any desired height, and the adhesion strap secured to the spreader, weights put on, all in less than three minutes by one accustomed to the apparatus. The illustration gives a good idea of the device.

Nothing I have ever seen compares with it for a convenient, practical, and rapid method of applying a Buck's Extension.

Disinfectants.

An interesting article by Mrs. De Voss, née Kanthack, has recently been published, drawing attention to the practical need for disinfectants which are compatible with soap and water. She points out the difficulty which district nurses, and especially those engaged in midwifery work amongst the poor, always have in obtaining a sufficiency of hot water, with the invariable result that the nurse often has to choose between soap and water and a disinfectant, with the natural result that discharges are often left which of course neutralise the germicidal effect of say perchloride of mercury. In her search for a disinfectant, which will not be incompatible with soap, which is powerful enough

to be quite reliable, and which will not stain clothes or roughen the nurse's fingers, she believes she has found in Cyllin, the well-known preparation of Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., a preparation which fulfils all these and other requirements. There is no doubt that she is correct in this belief because Cyllin is, in many ways, a very valuable disinfectant.

Automatic Dipping Apparatus

Although nowadays little is heard of that former bane of match factories known as "phossy jaw," unfortunately a fatal case has recently occurred at Gloucester. Expert representatives of the Home Office thoroughly investigated the circumstances attending this occurrence, and have reported that the employment of semi-automatic dipping machines in the factory in question is responsible for the cases that have occurred there. They point out the advisability of making these machines completely automatic, so that the operatives can be isolated from the phosphorus fumes. This innovation will occasion enormous expense, but is, of course, inevitable if present arrangements are dangerous to the health of the match-workers. As is well known, "phossy jaw" is a peculiar form of necrosis, set up by exposure to the fumes of phosphorus in the jaw bones of operatives who have vulnerable points in the form of decayed teeth. And as it has been found that persons with healthy mouths rarely suffer from the affection, it seems that a thorough dental examination should be insisted on periodically amongst the workers in those factories which do not employ completely automatic dipping apparatus.

Care of Babies

Three leading specialists of Baltimore have prepared for the supervisors of the city charities a set of requirements for institutional caring for children. As to air space each baby should have 1,000 cubic feet and abundant porch space should be provided for each baby. There should be provision for satisfactory fumigation after infectious diseases, and a ward should be held in reserve for the reception of infectious diseases. There should be an experienced trained nurse for each twenty babies, and there should be a nursery maid or other attendant serving under the direction of the nurse for every four babies. Each baby should spend at least four hours in the open air subject to the direction of the physician. The milk supplied to all babies should be subject to repeated chemical and bacteriological examination by the city health department, and should contain no more than 100,000 bacteria to the cubic centimetre. The minimum quantity of whole milk supplied to each baby should be: Under one month, one-half pint; between one and three months, one pint; over three months, one quart. Institutions caring for young babies should have suitable apparatus for sterilising milk, subject to the approval of the city health department. At least twenty napkins should be supplied to each baby. The napkins should be boiled after being soiled.

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