

depressed; and (2) to long exposure to a considerable degree of cold, a degree, however, to which the dry foot would be resistant. In the rational treatment of such cases with a view to prevention, it is of the first importance to render the feet less permeable to moisture. This indication may be best met by their anointment with some greasy material with low hygroscopic properties. It is well known to swimmers that anointing with fatty or oily material enables them to withstand cold, but the value of an application of low hygroscopic power for persons whose feet are passively subjected for hours or days to water or half-frozen slush is, perhaps, not sufficiently realised.

"Mr. Squire, of Oxford Street, has prepared a foot ointment answering the four requirements: (1) resistant to water penetration; (2) mildly stimulating and antiseptic; (3) readiness for use; and (4) not too expensive. After a good deal of trouble and investigation, he has produced an ointment of purified suet, camphorated, and with 5 per cent. eucalyptus oil, supplied on the pattern of a shaving stick in a metal case with smooth rounded edges. The solid ointment is pushed up from the bottom, and when rubbed over the surface leaves a smooth application of the ointment. A special advantage of this ointment is that its absorbing power for water is only 5 per cent., whereas most other greasy materials, such as lard, lanoline, &c., have an absorbent power for water of about 30 per cent. Mr. Squire has also prepared on the same lines a second ointment from palm oil sufficiently stiffened for the purpose, but containing only vegetable ingredients, so as to meet the requirements of our Indian troops, to whom all animal fats are repugnant.

"A limited trial of the first ointment has given so far satisfactory results, but it is, of course, too early to draw practical conclusions. Meanwhile 'the rain it raineth every day' and the cold is bitter for our officers and men."

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

An informal meeting of the United States Committee of the International Council was held in New York on Tuesday, January 19th, 1915, at 7 p.m. There were present Misses Dock, Cooke, Noyes, Nutting, Delano, Riddle, and Goodrich.

Miss Dock reported that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and the representatives from India, Japan, New Zealand, China, and Holland had written that they would be unable to attend. Sister

Agnes Karll, Germany, had not been heard from, nor had Australia nor Finland communicated with her officially.

Moved, seconded, and carried that the Florence Nightingale Committee be retained in office to continue the work of raising the fund for the Chair of Nursing when it again became possible to do so.

Moved, seconded, and carried that the loan made by the American Nurses' Association for the Florence Nightingale Memorial be returned, except \$25, and the money expended for expenses already incurred. (About \$300 had been advanced by the American Nurses' Association.)

Moved, seconded, and carried that the Jane Delano Prizes for the Inventions be withdrawn, and be offered for a future International Congress.

Miss Dock stated that Denmark had extended an invitation to the International Council for 1918, and suggested Mrs. Henny Tscherning as President. (This invitation had been extended in 1912, and Mrs. Tscherning has asked for an immediate decision.)

It was the sense of the Committee that a brief business meeting be held in San Francisco to appoint the officers for the next meeting of the International Council and to consider the place of meeting.

(Signed) ANNIE W. GOODRICH, *Chairman*.

Miss Dock writes:—

It seems to me it would be the best arrangement to hold the next meeting of the International Council at Copenhagen, and likely to give general satisfaction. We do not know when this war will end, and an interim meeting seems to me very dubious. After the financial exhaustion probably nurses will not consider the United States, as it costs so much to come here, and Denmark is easily reached by all.

I now learn that the San Francisco date for nurses' meeting is likely to be changed to the third week in June, as that is much more convenient for our local members. We had desired to spare the foreign members the heat of our summer, and so had set the earlier date for them. . . . Every circumstance at home and abroad impresses me most forcibly that women have already as Rosilke Schwimmer says, "waited too long." "Suffrage first," is our slogan now. Love to you all, and hopes and anticipations of a happier time in 1918.

A meeting of the National Council of Trained Nurses will be held on Saturday, 27th February, to elect delegates to attend the Business Session of the International Council at San Francisco in June, and instruct them as to voting on elections, place of next meeting, and other business which may arise. Also to consider the report and greetings.

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