

in the disease which is known as *paralysis agitans*, or what is popularly known as "shaking palsy"; there is a constant tremulous movement of the affected limb, over which the patient appears to have no control. So far as the nursing of these cases goes, much can be done in the first class, if the patient is young and the general health is not gravely affected, by means of massage and galvanism applied to the affected muscles, so as to improve their nutrition, and restore the activity of their function, while nature does her part in restoring the powers of the nervous system. But in the latter cases, the change is almost invariably a serious, if not an irreparable one, so far as the nerve tissue is concerned.

Convulsions.—These are spasmodic irregular movements of one or more groups of muscles caused, as you will now easily understand, by a disturbance in the central nervous system. Anything which irritates the brain and causes sufficient nerve excitement to produce muscular contraction, can easily go on to a regular attack of convulsions, and in the diagnosis of the locality of the disease in the brain, the observations of the nurse are of prime importance to the physician, because the exact site of the muscular movement points with unerring certainty to the precise part of the brain which is directly implicated just as we understand that the message received at our supposititious post-office must have come from the office with which its wires are directly connected. Upon the exact diagnosis of the locality of the disease depends, to a large extent, the diagnosis of the cause which is at work, or, in other words, the exact form of the disease itself. It is, therefore, in these cases of brain and nerve disease that the assistance of the trained nurse, as a skilled observer, becomes of more importance to the doctor than in almost any other class of disease. For instance, in the case of convulsions, the questions that would be asked you are—Where were the muscular movements first observed? Did they affect both sides of the body, or only one?—in other words, are both sides of the brain affected, or only one?—Were the muscles of the eye affected? Did the eye turn upwards, or outwards, or inwards? Was the head drawn down to one side or the other? Was the arm or the forearm, or the hand, first or chiefly affected, or did the movements seem to be more general, and to affect the whole body? It is in these cases that the Nurse has to train herself, and to be trained, to extreme and most scrupulous accuracy. There is no room for fancy or imagination in reporting scientific facts, and it is a good general rule never to leave one's impressions to the mercy of one's memory; a scientific fact should be noted at once in writing.

(To be continued.)

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



THE meeting of the Registration Board, held on Friday, February 23rd, was adjourned until Wednesday, February 28th, as the business to be dealt with was so great.

A number of applications were considered, and the following Nurses duly enrolled on the "Register," and it is hoped to announce a further list next week.

NAME.	TRAINED AT.
Sarah Galwey ...	Middlesex Hospital, and Cert. Leicester Infirmary.
Augusta Wilson Godfrey	Wellington Hospital, New Zealand. (Lady Supt. of the Hospital, Wellington, New Zealand.)
Elizabeth Lloyd ...	Cert. General Infirmary, Hereford.
Edith Mawe ...	St. Bartholomew's Hospital and
Sister, Kasr-el-Aini Hospital, Cairo.	Colonial Hospital, Gibraltar.
Annie Marriott Stevens	Cert. and obtained gold medal St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Fanny E. Whitfield ...	Cert. St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Lucy Harriett Williams	Cert. Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Friday, March 2nd, at the offices, at five p.m.

The Secretary has much pleasure in again calling the attention of Members and other Nurses to the following announcements, which have already appeared in this column:—

1. The two last lectures of the winter session will be delivered as follows: Friday, March 30th—Lecturer, Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; subject—"Nurses, their recreation and their work." Friday, April 20th—Lecturer, Miss Annesley Kenealy, registered M.R.B.N.A.; subject—"Women Judges at the World's Fair, Chicago."

2. A course of three lectures on "Practical points for Nurses in throat, nose and ear cases," will be delivered by R. Lake, Esq., F.R.C.S., on Monday evenings, April 16th, 23rd, and 30th.

These five above-mentioned lectures will be given at the new offices of the Corporation, 19, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W., at 8 o'clock in the evening. Admission to each—free to all members; 1/- to others.

The Secretary is asked again to contradict the erroneous statements which have appeared in the daily press concerning the date of the opening of the new offices, and begs to announce that it is hoped to move into them at the end of March; and when the date for the public opening is fixed, it will be officially announced.

DAISY ROBINS,
Secretary and Registrar.

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