

front of the throat well exposed. The operator places his finger on the prominence of the throat, which is known under the popular name of Adam's apple, and steadying the windpipe or *trachea* between the fingers and thumb of the left hand cuts downwards through the skin below this projection for about an inch and a half in length, in the middle line. Care is taken, so far as possible, to avoid wounding any large vein or artery, and the rings of white cartilage encircling the windpipe are quickly exposed. The operator then cuts through two or more of these in the middle line, and there is an immediate rush of air into the windpipe and so into the lungs. He places through the opening thus made, a silver tube curved on the flat so as to permit the air more easily and freely to enter the trachea by keeping the opening patent. The effect on a child, who has previously seemed at the point of death, is immediate and wonderful. The chest expands naturally, the lungs fill with air, the blood becomes properly oxygenised, the heart beats easily, the face and lips lose their blue and livid look, and regain the natural colour of health. There is an inner tube which can be easily removed for the purpose of being cleansed, and thus of preventing the blocking of the artificial opening by mucus and lymph, which would often otherwise take place. And it will be the Nurse's most important duty to take care that this tube is kept perfectly clean. As a general rule, in these cases of scalded throat, the swelling of the glottis soon subsides; the tube can then be removed from the trachea and the wound allowed to close, which it speedily does.

There is another matter to which allusion must be made in connection with this subject, and that is the liability of patients who have been badly burned to suffer from internal affections, and especially ulcerations of the mucous membrane, exemplifying the close connection between the inner and outer skin of the body upon which stress has already been laid. In the first stage, it is by no means uncommon for brain congestion to be extreme, and for patients to die comatose, in whom there is found, *post mortem*, to be a considerable amount of serous effusion on the surface, and in the ventricles, of the brain. Other patients again suffer from congestion and inflammation of the lungs, and others from acute ulceration of the œsophagus or duodenum, the latter sometimes terminating fatally by perforating the intestine and so setting up peritonitis, or by opening an artery and causing excessive hæmorrhage. It is, therefore, a good general rule to keep patients who have had severe burns, at perfect rest for at least a fortnight, because the fatal cases to which allusion has been made, sometimes occur without any warning, and in patients who appear to be recovering well, from the effects of the accident.

(To be continued.)

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

STEADFAST & TRUE.



The adjourned meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the Offices of the Association, on Friday, the 18th inst., at 4.30 p.m. Her Royal Highness, the President, was present, and deputed Mr. PICKERING PRICK to take the Chair.

Her Royal Highness graciously signified her willingness to sign the Registration Certificates in the future, which will doubtless greatly enhance their value to the recipients.

ELIZABETH LLOYD, Registered Nurse, certificated at the General Infirmary, Hereford, was elected a member of the Corporation.

Previous to the meeting, a handsomely engraved Seal of the Corporation, mounted in malachite, was presented by Dr. BEZLEY THORNE, the Medical Hon. Secretary, for use in the Offices of the Association,

A Meeting of the Registration Board took place on Friday, the 25th inst., at 5 p.m.

The Association is now established in its handsome new and convenient Offices, at 17, Old Cavendish Street, Cavendish Square, which are to be formally opened by Her Royal Highness, Princess Christian, at 5.30 p.m., on Wednesday, the 30th, when it is hoped as many members of the Council as possible will be present, as the address expressing the gratitude of the members to their President, will be presented to H.R.H. Princess Christian. Presents of flowers for the purpose of decoration will be gladly received at the office on the 29th or early on the 30th inst.

The Board and Lecture Room is of imposing proportions—comprising the entire first floor, and has sitting room for an audience of 250 persons.

On the second floor are situated the President's room—charmingly furnished for the use of Her Royal Highness—together with the Secretary's and clerks' offices, and the Club Room, all tastefully decorated and well arranged for the purposes for which they are designed.

It is hoped that the Club Room will be quite ready for the use of the members as a reading and writing room, by the 30th instant, until which date they are at liberty to use the Board Room.

ALICE RAVENHILL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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