

long india-rubber tube, provided with a stop cock. The tin, when filled, can be hung up at any convenient height, and the vaginal end of the tube can then be easily inserted by the patient herself. This form of instrument for vaginal injection, therefore, is usually ordered for patients who have not the assistance of a Nurse. In using this, it is well to remember that the water should always be run through the tube for two or three minutes until it issues quite warm, because in some women, who are prone to chills, or who have suffered from acute or sub-acute pelvic inflammation, irreparable harm may be done by the neglect of this simple precaution; the first water which comes through the long tube being, of course, so chilled by the passage, that it is absolutely cold. It is well always to obtain the doctor's instructions as to the exact heat required for the injection, and to secure this temperature by means of a thermometer.

Injections for the cervix of the Uterus, which are frequently ordered in cases of extreme congestion, should be always given through a speculum so as to let the water play direct upon the cervical tissue, and, as has already been said, when the Nurse has to give an intra-uterine injection, the same course is advisable in order that she may see in either case precisely what she is doing. In most other cases, however, the injection is given without the aid of the speculum, and then the Nurse should introduce the vaginal tube—well warmed and well oiled—gently up the canal until it reaches the *cul-de-sac* behind the cervix, because it is most common for discharges to accumulate here. The precautions against having the temperature of the water too cold or too hot are naturally even more important than in cases where the speculum is employed. In using the speculum, an ordinary basin placed under its mouth is sufficient to catch the returning stream of fluid; but when the speculum is not used, it is necessary to employ a curved dressing bowl for this purpose, and this engraving represents a

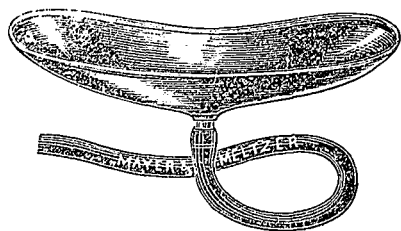


FIG. 5.

very convenient form for this purpose, as the fluid runs away through a tube into a pail conveniently placed beneath the bed. Of course, the bed should always be protected by a draw sheet and a waterproof, although, with a little practice, there is comparatively little necessity for this precaution.

(To be continued.)

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING.

STEADFAST & TRUE.



The quarterly meeting of the General Council was held on Friday, 13th July, 1894, at 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., at 5 p.m.

Present: Her Royal Highness the President, Sir James Crichton-Browne in the Chair, and 45 members.

The following is the report of the Executive Committee, which was read by the Medical Honorary Secretary:—The roll of members of the Corporation at present numbers 2,669; since the last General Council Meeting there have been 12 withdrawals, 4 deaths, and 55 new members elected. The Register of Trained Nurses contains 2,053 names, of which 58 are new entries since the last Council Meeting. The Executive Committee beg to report that the new premises of the Corporation were formally opened on the 30th May last, by H.R.H. the President, assisted by the Lord Bishop of Ripon. Sir William Savory, who presided on the occasion, was supported by a distinguished and numerous company, and presented to Her Royal Highness, on behalf of the Corporation, an illuminated address expressing the thanks of British Nurses for Her Royal Highness's watchful and unceasing care for their interests and welfare.

Since the last meeting of the Council, the Executive Committee have filled the post of Secretary to the Corporation by the appointment of Miss Alice Ravenhill. They entertain no doubt that the zeal and ability with which that lady discharges her duties will prove to be a source of strength to the Association.

The Council is recommended to exercise the powers conferred upon it by the last annual meeting, by electing Mrs. Spencer, a member of the Corporation, to a seat in their own body, and, further, to elect that lady to the vacant post of Nurse Honorary Secretary. In inviting the Council to take those steps the Executive Committee desire to express their thanks to Mrs. Spencer for the energy and labour which she has already devoted to the unofficial performance of the duties pertaining to that office.

Arrangements have been completed for the institution, in October next, of a complete course of educational lectures for the benefit of Probationers and others who may be interested in Nursing.

The organisation of a Reserve of Nurses for service, under the authority of the War Office, in case of emergency, is approaching completion. Some of the great Metropolitan Hospitals and Nurse Training Institutions have expressed a preference for isolated and improvised action deferred to the last moment. It is hardly necessary to state that the aim of the Corporation in undertaking a work of national importance and usefulness, is to pursue a different course, viz.: to prepare and perfect, in time of peace, an always ready and efficient instrument of beneficent usefulness, with a view to placing it, at any hour, at the service of the country and the State without haste or confusion.

The Committee avail themselves of this opportunity of expressing their thanks to Her Royal Highness the President for graciously offering to become the

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