

INJECTION OF THE COCAINE.

Everything being in readiness, ten minims of this prepared cocaine is injected into the skin over the space between the third and fourth lumbar vertebrae. When sufficiently anaesthetized, a small incision is made. The needles, being put together, are now inserted and are attached to the exhausted bulb with rubber tubing and glass bulb. When the needles have pierced the meninges surrounding the filaments of the cauda equina the stop-cock is opened, and almost immediately the cerebro-spinal fluid appears in the glass bulb.

Should this fluid not appear, the inner needle is withdrawn, a wire run through to displace any possible clot, and then it is reinserted, being again attached to the exhausted bulb.

The advantage of the double needle is here apparent. The inner needle being withdrawn, the outer needle remains stationary, thus preventing, in the reinsertion, another puncture of the meninges.

When the cerebro-spinal fluid appears, the glass bulb is detached from the rubber tubing and the syringe attached, containing twenty minims of the cocaine solution, this amount equalling one-half grain.

One minute is taken to inject this quantity, and it is followed immediately by ten minims of sterile water, which fills the needle. The needles are then withdrawn and sterilized, and adhesive plaster is placed over the incision.

Patient now assumes a recumbent position on operating-table, and tests for anaesthesia are begun at once.

EFFECT OF ANAESTHETIC.

The feet are usually anaesthetized first, the time taken being from one to five minutes, and very soon the patient is anaesthetized to waist line.

The height to which the anaesthesia goes varies with the individual. Frequently it goes as high as the third rib, and in some cases the face and part of the scalp have been anaesthetized.

The pulse usually remains regular, from eighty to one hundred beats per minute, and the respirations are natural. The patient has peculiar pallor and free perspiration. Invariably she becomes nauseated, though vomiting may be prevented by giving strong, clear coffee to drink. Anaesthesia lasts one hour and sometimes longer.

AFTER-EFFECTS OF ANAESTHETIC.

The after-effects seldom vary. Some patients have slight delirium and all suffer from violent headache, which usually lasts from twenty-four to forty-eight hours. This condition may be relieved by giving from five to ten grains of antipyrine.

The American Nursing World.

An American Federation of Nurses has been formed, composed by affiliating the two great National Associations of Nurses, the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, and the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States. This Federation has affiliated with the National Council of Women of the United States, and is now efficiently organized for entry into the International Council of Nurses. Miss L. L. Dock is acting, provisionally, as Secretary.

The charming Recognition Bows, of rose-red ribbon, with the name of the country embroidered in white, which are to be worn by all Delegates to the International Nurses' Congress on their travels in Canada and the States, have arrived in England.

Miss McGahey expects to arrive in England from Australia on August 7th, and will join a party of British Delegates to the Congress at the end of the month.

Miss Snively has forwarded to Headquarters a list of Bureaux of Information in Canada, for those who propose to visit the Dominion, as follows:—

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Lady Superintendent, General Hospital.

Vancouver, B.C., City Hospital.

Victoria, B.C., Royal Jubilee Hospital.

Kingston, Ontario, General Hospital, Miss Flaws.

Ottawa, Ontario, Lady Stanley Institute, Miss Micklejohn.

St. John's, New Brunswick, 85, Prince William Street.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Victoria Hospital.

Hamilton, Ontario, City Hospital, Miss Bowman.

Toronto, The Telegram Office, Bay Street, General Hospital, Gerrard Street.

Mr. T. Ross Robertson, President of the Board of Trustees, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, has kindly offered to place his Secretary at the disposal of foreign delegates during their visit to that beautiful city, so as to facilitate their arrangements; and he also hopes to entertain them at luncheon.

Mr. William I. Buchanan, the Director General of the Pan-American Exposition, has granted the members of the Nurses' Congress the use of the beautiful Temple of Music, on "Trained Nurses' Day," September 21st. This is a magnificent Hall, but how many of us will dare to raise our voices in its spacious auditorium, at least with any hope of being heard?

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