

catching cold will be found potent factors against this method of treatment, but this makes it even more important that the physician should use his authority in outlining the daily life of the patient.

Now we come to the question of surgical interference in pulmonary tuberculosis. Where we have complications involving the pleura, the effect of surgical interference has been amply demonstrated, and, in pulmonary abscesses, opening and drainage have been employed in some instances but not in sufficiently large a number to lay down any positive rule to be followed in such cases. Cases in which a tuberculous abscess is the only focus in a diseased lung are rare, and therefore the tendency of development of activity near the other foci should make us very careful in advising surgical interference.

We have to mention the method of direct injections of various antiseptics into a cavity through the chest walls. The most that can be hoped for from this method of treatment in tuberculous cavities is a slight reduction in the condition of sepsis of the patient.

Ichthyol and creosote are, possibly, the best solutions to be used.

Finally, we come to the method of treatment by compression of the lung by nitrogen gas. This is founded upon the theory of rest, and, therefore, theoretically it can be of avail only in those cases in which no pleuritic adhesions have taken place. Any amount of adhesions, such as are found in tuberculous consolidations, would prevent the complete collapse of the lung, hence not only defeating our object but, in addition, diminishing the free ventilation of the portions of the lung in use—thus making the condition of the patient much worse than before. And even in cases where no adhesions exist the infiltrations are likely to be of such slight density as to yield to more convenient and fully tried methods of treatment.

A Unique Sanatorium.

A unique sanatorium has just been completed at Beelitz, a few miles from Berlin, by the Berlin section of the National Workmen's Insurance Fund. It is built and furnished on lavish lines, and can accommodate 600 patients. There is an ordinary sanatorium for men containing 200 beds, and one for women of 80 beds. Separate pavilions for tuberculous patients have received special consideration, and are fitted with every device that modern science can suggest. Ample provision is made for the patients to rest in the open air, and to walk in bad weather. Then there are workshops where convalescents can employ themselves, and a bathing-house, built at a cost of £32,000, where every kind of bath can be taken. The sanatorium has even its own church, which will accommodate 200 persons.

Nursing Echoes.

* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



At the recent bi-annual Congress of British Seamen, held in London, says the *Gentlewoman*, it was unanimously agreed to confer an honorary membership in the National Seamen's Union upon Sister Lætitia Ford, of the New South Wales Nursing Service, in recognition of her services during an outbreak of Asiatic small-pox aboard the hired transport 106 (*Ching Tu*, of Greenock) and the mail steamer *Ormuz*, of London. The *Ching Tu* was engaged conveying to their homes the different units of the Australian Naval Contingent for service in China. They served at the relief of Peking with credit. Upon the outbreak Sister Ford was detailed to the charge of the quarantine station from the isolation wards of the Coast Hospital. Her continuous services to seamen have been long recognised by those engaged in the Australian trade. The Congress, representing 25,000 seamen of various nationalities, have placed on record a graceful and fitting recognition of this lady's efforts on behalf of those whom they represent. The Admiralty have signified their intention of issuing the medal struck for the Chinese Expeditionary Force to Sister Ford and her staff—a belated act of recognition on the part of this Department which will commend itself to all right-thinking women. Miss A. Bayes has designed an address, which in due course will be presented to Sister Ford. It is pleasant to think that at this great distance an organisation existing solely for industrial purposes can recognise and appreciate the unostentatious labours of this lady.

An examination in sick and convalescent cookery was recently held at the Camberwell Infirmary by Miss Gordon, assistant organiser of the County Council Domestic Economy Department. Sixteen Staff Nurses and probationers had previously attended demonstrations and practices in this subject. In the practical section of the examination, fourteen candidates passed in the first class, one in the second, and one was absent on the sick list. In the theoretical section two candidates passed in the first class, fourteen in the second, and two failed.

Boards of Guardians and Superintendent Nurses are constantly at loggerheads. The reason is not far to seek. Masters and Matrons of workhouses often attempt to keep control of power in the sick

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)