

To the General Duty Section will be allotted those duties in hospitals only indirectly connected with the care of the sick.

Advancement to a higher grade of orderly and promotion (except to a limited extent in the Clerical and Cooking Sections) can only be obtained through the Nursing Section.

Revised rates of pay are under consideration, with the view of making the Nursing Section the most important and attractive.

It is believed that the employment of specially-selected men in nursing only, with adequate remuneration, will attract to the corps the best class of men, while the admirable courses of instruction for which officers commanding hospitals and Matrons are responsible should enable men to qualify themselves for posts in civil life on retirement.

Formaldehyde Inhalation.

By CHOWRY MUTHU, M.D., L.R.C.P.,
Physician, Mendip Hills Sanatorium.

Formic aldehyde is a powerful antiseptic and deodorant, and stands at present foremost among the medicinal agents in checking the growth of, and destroying, micro-organisms. It is now extensively used in histology, surgery, and gynaecology, and in various skin and eye diseases. Lately it has been found effective in laryngeal and pulmonary tuberculosis. In this disease formaldehyde is used in the form of (1) injection, (2) inhalation.

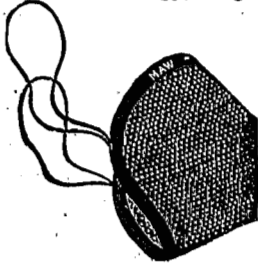
1. The intravenous injection requires great skill, and can only be performed by a physician.

2. The inhalation method is simple and can be used by anyone. For this purpose I use an inhaler (see figure) which is somewhat similar in shape to that of Dr. Yeo, but larger, fuller and nickel-plated. It is curved to fit the chin, and has leaden clasps inside to take a layer of cotton-wool, which can be renewed from time to time.

The inhalant.—I use a mixture of saturated solution of formaldehyde (40 per cent.—called formalin) with chloroform and rectified spirit, three to ten drops of which should be sprinkled on the cotton-wool and renewed every two or three hours. I shall be glad to send the exact formula to any medical man.

Advantages.—This method is simple and inexpensive, and can be used by the patient at all times, while walking, reading, writing, and even asleep. The secret of the success of this treatment lies in its being continuously and perseveringly used for as many hours a day as possible.

The apparatus can be obtained from Messrs. Maw, Son, and Sons, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.



The Progress of State Registration.

MEETING AT THE ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY, WIGAN.

Miss Macintyre, the Matron of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, is to be congratulated upon the representative character of the meeting convened by her at the Infirmary on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had been invited to speak on the question of Registration of Trained Nurses by the State.

Miss Macintyre, who is a Vice-President and one of the Local Hon. Secretaries for Lancashire of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, fully realises the fact that the better organisation of trained nurses, which must necessarily affect their educational curriculum and industrial position, is a matter of the utmost importance, not only to nurses, but also to the medical profession and the public. Invitations to be present at the meeting had in consequence been extended to the hon. medical staff of the Infirmary and ladies interested in social progress in the town, many of whom were present.

Amongst those who attended were Dr. Berry, Chairman of the Board of Management; Dr. R. Prosser White, Dr. C. R. Graham, Dr. C. M. Brady; Dr. Slade, House Surgeon; Mr. Taberner, Secretary; Miss Jones, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool; Miss Poole, Blackburn Infirmary; Miss Mulvany, Bolton Infirmary; Miss Burgess, St. Helen's Hospital; Miss Harrison, Southport; and the laity were represented by Mrs. Gray, Mrs. James Brown, Mrs. W. S. Rawcliffe, Miss Edwards and other influential ladies connected with Wigan and the district. The Blackburn, Bolton, Preston and Wigan Infirmaries were well represented by Sisters and nurses.

Letters of regret at non-attendance were received from the Matrons of the Royal Infirmary, Preston, the Infirmary, Southport, and the Infirmary, Wrexham.

Miss Macintyre took the chair, and in a graceful speech welcomed and introduced Mrs. Fenwick, who spoke at length on State Registration of Nurses as the means to an end. She pointed out the importance of legislation to nurses, because at present there is no recognised standard of education for nurses and no means of control of, or supervision over, the nursing profession; that, in consequence, certificates, such as are granted by every hospital at will, have no real standard value, and are airily bestowed after a few months', one, two, or three years' training, just as it seems good to lay hospital authorities. Mrs. Fenwick emphasised the importance of registration of trained nurses to medical practitioners, because there is no central authority in nursing, analogous to the General Medical Council, which defines the professional curriculum for nurses, or

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