

To give a hot pack, first lay a blanket on the bed, then a bed mackintosh. This should reach only to the patient's shoulders, the under blanket serving as a head covering. Place over the mackintosh another blanket; have ready a foot-bath and two cans of boiling water, turn the patient on to the left side, wring a draw sheet out quickly, placing it under the patient, rolling him into it; cover him with a blanket while wringing out the second sheet, then place this over the front of the patient and use another for the feet. Cover the patient in the blanket from side to side, likewise the mackintosh, then the outer blanket, covering the head, leaving the face visible. Then turn the blanket up at the feet, place a hot-water bottle on either side of the patient and tuck a blanket over the whole. During the pack give a hot drink in sips. For cases of nephritis, hot lemon water is preferable to induce perspiration and increase the action of the kidneys. Observe respiration and take the pulse at the carotid arteries. Leave the patient in the pack according to the directions of the medical man.

The patient should be removed quickly, and with as little exposure as possible into two hot blankets, remaining there for fifteen to thirty minutes, until the heart has regained its normal condition, then put on a hot flannel shirt and take temperature.

Yours faithfully,

ELLEN GIBBS.

[The method of giving a hot wet pack advised by Miss Isla Stewart and Dr. Herbert Cuff in their book "Practical Nursing" is to wring out two large sheets (each folded once lengthways and once crossways) in water at a temperature of 110 degs. One of these is placed under the patient, and the two sides of it brought up to the front of the body between the arms and ribs, and also tucked round the thighs and legs. The other sheet is then laid on the front of the body, tucked round the neck, and also beneath the body on each side, passing on the outer side of the arms. After they have been put on, two or three hot blankets are rolled tightly round the patient, especially about the neck, and the bedclothes replaced. In a short time profuse perspiration ensues. At the end of half an hour, which is the time usually ordered, the patient is rapidly sponged with tepid water, dried, and put into a warm bed. While doing this great care must be taken by the nurse in guarding him against a chill. The bed is, of course, prepared by covering it with a large mackintosh and blanket. A dry pack is given with hot blankets.—Ed.]

Comments and Replies.

Certified Midwife, Blackburn.—The address for which you ask is 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

Trained Nurse, London.—The Medical Supply Association, 228, Gray's Inn Road, supply excellent hot water bottles at very reasonable prices. Indeed, this firm makes a point of moderate prices in connection with all goods supplied.

Maternity Nurse.—The great points in connection with a premature infant are (1) to keep it very warm, if an incubator is not used it is best to have a cot near the fire, and to keep it well supplied with hot water

bottles, always remembering the extreme tenderness of a newly born infant's skin and the necessity for adequate protection of the bottles. It should be handled as little as possible. The rules for feeding will probably be laid down by the medical attendant; as a general rule the importance of breast feeding cannot be too strongly insisted on. If the infant is not strong enough to suck the mother's milk can be drawn off with a breast pump, and the child spoon-fed.

The Nurses' Petition to the Prime Minister.

The Nurses' Petition to the Prime Minister respectfully pleading that the Government will undertake to introduce a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses into the House of Commons next Session, will be found on page iii. of the cover of this Journal. Will all who wish to support this Petition whether medical practitioners, nurses, or members of the public, cut out this page, sign the Petition, invite others to do so, and then post it to the Hon. Secretary, Nurses' Petition, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Will our readers also make it known that anyone desiring to sign this Petition can do so at the above address. The time in which to organise this Petition is very short, so we hope all readers will help.

Notices.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this Journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

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

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The nurses who are working on behalf of the above Society, and are endeavouring to spread knowledge as to its aims, may be glad to know that they can now obtain a Memorandum, giving briefly the reasons why Registration is necessary, from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 6d. for 20 copies.

Those interested in the efficient organisation of nursing should procure the Annual Report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses from the Hon. Secretary. Six copies, post free, 7d., or one copy 1½d. It gives a brief review of the history of State Registration.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on advt. page vi., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

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