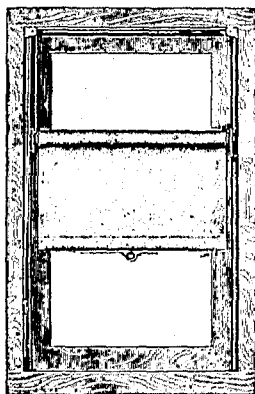


Practical Points.

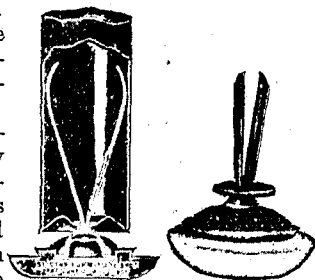
The Johnson Shade Adjustor. One of the important accessories, says the *National Hospital Record*, to the modern hospital is a satisfactory window shade. The shade that has been generally in use was fastened at the top of the window casement, and shut out the best or upper light, and when the top sash was lowered for ventilation it prevented the object desired. The Johnson Shade Adjustor, as illustrated herewith, is so adjustable as to obscure any part of the window desired. In the view shown this shade is arranged to protect the middle of the window, thus providing for light above and below, and for ventilation at the same time. These shades



are widely used in hospitals and other similar institutions, school houses, and public buildings. The device may be easily attached to any spring roller shade in either new or old buildings. The manufacturer is R. R. Johnson, 161, Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

The Sliding Furniture Shoe.

The Sliding Furniture Shoe, described in the same journal, is a comparatively new invention, designed to replace the old-fashioned castor, and judging by the results obtained by those who have used them, these shoes do all that a castor will do, and do it much better. In speaking of the value of this device, Dr. C. F. Studley, of the Riverside Sanitarium, at Milwaukee, Wis., says: "There is no improvement of any kind in this institution which has more unqualified endorsement than the work you have just completed. Heavy beds move over the floors without effort, without a scratch of any kind, and the work is minimised wonderfully. I trust that you will succeed in placing this ingenious device in every institution in the State, for it fills a want that has long been felt." These shoes are made with metal, porcelain or glass base, as desired, and can be attached to any furniture on which a castor can be used. They are not expensive, and a free sample will be sent to any hospital, upon request, by the Onward Manufacturing Company, at Menasha, Wis.



Inquests of Interest.

RAZORS IN HOSPITALS.

The sad death of Lieutenant A. A. Huyshe, R.G.A., at the Military Station Hospital, Devonport, was the subject of an inquest on Wednesday, January 20th. Mr. Huyshe was attached to No. 3 Depôt, R.G.A., at Plymouth Citadel, and was removed to hospital on the previous Friday suffering from malarial fever. He grew rapidly worse, his temperature rising to 104 degs. in the evening. He suddenly became delirious, and obtaining a razor from the locker at the side of his bed cut his throat in spite of the efforts of the orderly to restrain him.

Mr. Ward, solicitor, who represented the relatives, commented on the fact that Mr. Huyshe's razors were within his reach.

Nursing Sister Wilhelmina Barter said that she was responsible for the custody of Mr. Huyshe's property, and for what was admitted to the ward. In the case of an officer it was usual for him to have his property. It was only in cases of insensibility or delirium that razors being in the wards was forbidden by the regulations. Similar evidence was given by Major Nicolas Tyacke, R.A.M.C., who said that in such cases he should have no hesitation in allowing razors. He had attended thousands of cases of malarial fever in India and elsewhere, and probably delirium did not occur in more than 1 in 1,000 cases.

The Coroner said the jury could not dictate on the regulations, but they could express an opinion that there should be most stringent regulations as to the admission of razors to the ward. He thought they should not be allowed unless a superior officer was satisfied that there was no danger.

The jury endorsed the Coroner's remarks, with which we are in sympathy, and think it most desirable that the military regulations should be altered on this point. The previous history of patients admitted to hospital is unknown, and a high temperature may at any time affect the mental condition of a patient. In addition, a patient with a temperature of 104 degs. is obviously unfit for the exertion of shaving himself, so that the razors in the locker by his bedside can serve no useful end.

The best method of obviating any necessity for placing such dangerous implements as razors within reach of patients is that a barber should be employed to shave all patients as long as they are in hospital.

ONE NURSE TO 25 PATIENTS.

At an inquest held by Mr. W. Schroder, at Islington, on Friday, January 22nd, on the body of a patient who died in the Great Northern Central Hospital, it was alleged by Mr. Irvine Harle, on behalf of the widow, that there had been carelessness and neglect while the patient was in hospital. At night time there was only one nurse in charge of 23 or 25 patients. The inquest was adjourned so that the hospital authorities could have an opportunity of investigating the allegations.

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