

## Practical Points.

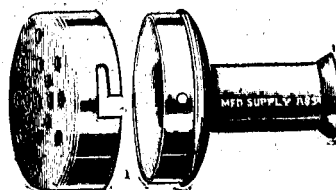
**A Recent Surgical Convenience.** In the operating rooms and on the surgical carriages in the wards, says the *Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumnae Magazine*, may be seen a piece of ivory soap stuck with the varieties of pins which it pleases the doctor and the head nurse to most affect. Our old friend, the black headed pin, long associated with crinoline dressings, retains still an honoured place. The history of the introduction of the soap into the hospital is interesting. Three years ago Dr. R. H. Follis operated upon a patient at the Church Home. The patient was a tailor by profession and chanced to reside in Annapolis. When dressings were made he observed the difficulty with which the safety pins were put through the binder and suggested trying the method the cadets at the Naval Academy had evolved to help in pinning through their stiff ducks. This simple but most effective device was a piece of soap as a pin cushion, and he further remarked that carpenters applied the same principle to screws. Dr. Follis immediately tried the plan, with such success that it has been generally adopted in the surgical service.

**Cystoscopy.** Catheterisation of the ureters is a comparatively new achievement, though experimenters have been at work on instruments and devices which should make it possible since 1807. The object is, of course, to get specimens of urine from each kidney separately as a means of diagnosis of kidney disease. The latest and most successful device for doing this is the cystoscope, a tube which combines a tiny electric light and either one or two catheter points; by this means the interior of the bladder is lighted and the entrance to the ureter is made sure. In using the instrument antiseptic precautions are observed. The parts are cleansed as usual, and the cystoscope, which has been kept in an atmosphere of formaldehyde gas, is immersed in a strong formalin solution for thirty minutes, then washed with sterile water. With the earlier instruments pain was produced, and a general anaesthetic was necessary; now local anaesthesia is used, as the perfection of the instrument has resulted in its having a smaller calibre. The subject, which is referred to as above in the *American Journal of Nursing*, is described more in detail in an article by Dr. P. Duncan Littlejohn in a medical contemporary.

**An Improved Inhaler.** Dr. Alexander Ross describes in the *Lancet* an appliance for the inhalation of medicated air in the treatment of diseases of the respiratory tract, as follows:—Its special features are: (1) It consists of two simple parts, having nothing to wear out or go wrong. (2) It is made of a light but strong white metal, which admits of it being boiled in soda solution, and thus easily rendered aseptic after use. (3) It admits of no erosion in contact with the atmosphere or absorption of septic matter. (4) It is unbreakable, and can be used with both hands free, and

thus allow the user to follow his or her usual vocation.

**Method of using it.**—A pellet of absorbent wool is dipped into any suitable medicament and then placed in the centre of a small round plate of the same material. The wool plate is then folded in over the pellet and placed in the mouthpiece. The end-piece is fixed on by means of a bayonet catch. Begin using by blowing strongly outward; this



clears the wool from the mouthpiece. The inhalations should be done by long, slowly drawn inspirations until the lungs each time are fully inflated. The breath should be held for some time and then allowed to pass out by the nostrils. This inhaler has been made for Dr. Ross by the Medical Supply Association, of 228, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

## Legal Matters.

### KENEALY *versus* LORD NORTHCLIFFE AND THE "DAILY MAIL."

An action now pending, and which is expected to be heard in the King's Bench Division as we go to press, involves several important points, and is of considerable interest to women workers and journalists. It is brought against Lord Northcliffe and the *Daily Mail* by Miss Annesley Kenealy, lately Editor and Manager of the "Humanities Department" of that paper. Miss Kenealy will conduct her own case, and Mr. Rufus Isaacs, K.C., has been retained for the defence. An important witness may be the Hon. Sydney Holland, Chairman of the London Hospital.

### SHOP-LIFTING BY WOMAN DESCRIBED AS A NURSE

Two women, Marion Cohen, described as a nurse, and Nellie Cohen, said to be her daughter, formerly a barmaid, have been convicted at Marlborough Street Police Court of stealing a pair of boots, value 4s. 11d., from Messrs. Bourne and Hollingsworth, in Oxford Street. No evidence was offered that the elder woman had received any training as a nurse, but the nursing profession is credited with her crime. An effort was made to have the prisoners dealt with under the Probation of Offenders' Act, but the magistrate said it would be an abuse of the Act, and sentenced both to twenty-one days' imprisonment in the second division.

### THEFTS FROM NURSING HOMES.

Henry Trotman was last week sentenced at Liverpool to twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for stealing jewellery and money, to the value of £55 from the nurses' bedrooms in two nursing homes.

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