

sacred trust of the State. Let those at present in power prove that they realise their responsibility by dealing effectively with the Registration of Nurses at an early date.

Medical Matters.

NEW USES FOR CARBOLIC ACID.

Dr. Robert Mason, Exeter, N. H., writing for the *Medical Record*, says he has used carbolic acid (liquefied crystals) in fourteen consecutive cases of diphtheria. The acid is applied by saturating a piece of absorbent cotton (so it will not drip), fixed to a cotton holder, and smearing the tonsils till the surface turns white. This operation is to be repeated every day—sometimes lightly, both morning and night. In four or five days the cure is complete. Every case of diphtheria he has had has terminated in recovery under this treatment. He has used the same treatment in tonsillitis, in a great many cases with perfect results, sometimes aborting the disease with one application. He says enlarged tonsils and uvula (chronic inflammation) can be cured in the same way. He has also removed adenoids in the same manner. He says papules, furuncles, and carbuncles can be aborted if touched before suppuration has occurred. He has injected several encysted tumours of the back with pure acid, and has seen them disappear without any pain or inconvenience to the patient. He has used a 50 per cent. mixture of the acid with water (on cotton with holder) and thrust the cotton through a polypus of the nose, and also through uterine polypi, and has destroyed them with one or two treatments. He says warts may be removed by touching with carbolic acid on a dull pointed stick.

EFFECT OF LEECHES.

A French medical paper states that wet cupping has almost entirely replaced the use of leeches in therapy, yet the effect of the two is not the same. After cupping, the hæmorrhage will soon cease, while after the use of leeches as much as 100 to 200 c.c. can be obtained. The exuding blood resembles that of hæmophilia, in that coagulation sets in very slowly. If the soft non-adherent clot is removed, the bleeding will usually continue. In the test-tube, the clotting only affects the plasma; it occurs late and the clot shows no retraction, and it frequently redissolved. The addition of a few drops of human or animal serum will bring about normal clotting.

Notes on Paralysis and the Common Forms Met with in Children's Nursing.

Paralysis "Trelax" means loss of power, muscular action; this is generally due to interference with some portion of the nervous system. Properly regarded, paralysis is more correctly described as a symptom rather than a disease; this symptom is usually (to some extent) associated with disease or injury to the nervous system—either cerebral, spinal, or peripheral.

The more common types of paralysis met with in children's work come from Class II. It may be well, however, to first point out some of the more usual types to be met with in Class I., although age may have little to do with the condition where due to injury.

CLASS I.—CEREBRAL.

Hemiplegia (half stroke), affecting one side of the body, is caused either by hæmorrhage into the brain substance or plugging of one of the blood vessels. This may occur suddenly, as in apoplexy, or through a local injury; again, the condition may arise gradually without loss of consciousness. When this appears in a modified degree it is called "Paresis." The side paralysed will be the opposite one from the side of the brain affected. Partial recovery may take place of muscular power, but it is rarely that the nervous system recovers entirely from the shock. In advanced life the condition is apt to recur when the cause has been hæmorrhage.

Care should be taken to avoid exciting the person who has suffered from hemiplegia in the past. The evening meal should be light and digestible, alcohol should be employed sparingly, and upon a rush of blood to the head (many patients complain of a feeling of fulness) the feet should be placed in mustard and water and cold applied to the head. Mustard leaves also can be placed on the back of the neck and spine, and mental rest encouraged by the nurse. Massage will do much to prevent the side affected from muscular waste, but this should not be employed without the consent and direction of the medical attendant.

"Paralysis agitans" is a disease of advanced life; it is characterised by trembling of the parts affected. The patient does not recover, but life may be prolonged for some years.

There are other kinds of functional paralysis which are generally the heralds of further disease in the nervous system. General paralysis of the insane is the most complete

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