

indispensable to the adequate colonisation of this great continent, with its vast resources, and as her services to the State are so great, surely no members of the community are more justly entitled to the full benefits of citizenship.

In support of this statement, we quote the *Sydney Town and Country Journal*, which says:—"One of the most important items in this scheme to a young country is that once it is established women are more likely to go and live 'out back,' for there is no doubt many women, especially those in delicate health and with young children, are often prevented from going into the interior owing to the difficulties they would encounter in case of illness, and they would sooner live on less in the city or large town than risk their lives by being out of reach of a doctor or nurse. Once Lady Dudley's scheme is in full swing all these difficulties will vanish, for with a nurse within call—even if it is a long call—the advantage of the bush telephone, and closer settlement, women will flock to the country and help to build homes for themselves and their children. Those in the city who are not now, perhaps, quite in sympathy with the idea cannot help seeing what a benefit it will be in the development of the country. For the overcrowding of the cities and the employment of many women and girls in factories, shops and other places where they go in for occupation, does not tend in any way to improve the young generation."

The scheme, it is also thought, will appeal to girls born and bred in the bush, who seldom become accustomed to city life, but who if they train as nurses would, as members of the Australian Order for District Nursing, be able to return to the interior as most valuable members of society, earning a good living as skilled professional workers. In short, it is almost impossible to foresee all the possibilities which the scheme holds for the good of Federated Australia, but it is evident that they are likely to be greater even than could have been anticipated by its far-sighted Founder.

One thing must be kept well in mind.

To be successful, the Australian Order for District Nursing must be built up by the best women, and most efficiently trained nurses.

Medical Matters.

SHOCK.

Dr. T. N. Brainerd, writing in the *American Journal of Clinical Medicine*, quotes Da Costa's definition of Shock as very accurate.

"Shock is a sudden depression of the vital powers arising from an injury or a profound emotion acting on the nerve-centres and inducing exhaustion or inhibition of the vasomotor mechanism." . . . In shock the abdominal veins are greatly distended and the other veins of the body may be overful; the arteries contain less blood than normal, and an insufficient amount of blood is sent to the heart and to the vital centres in the brain. In other words, in shock there is a deficiency in the circulating blood. . . . Shock may be light and transient, or it may be severe and prolonged, and it may even produce almost instant death. . . . Shock is more severe in women than in men, and in the nervous and sanguine than in the lymphatic, in those weakened by suffering than in those who are strangers to illness.

The treatment of shock is simple and mostly passive. Be careful to do nothing which can add to the existing shock.

In moving a patient be gentle with him. Do not permit a broken bone to gouge into the flesh and nerves and blood-vessels needlessly.

Keep him quiet on his back with head low.

Apply artificial heat.

Give morphine hypodermically for the relief of pain and to quiet the mental agitation. The hyoscine-morphine combination is best for this purpose.

Give strychnine (1-20 grain) to revive the heart action.

Give hypodermic or intravenous injections of saline solution to fill up the blood-vessels. Atropine and ergotine will contract the smaller blood-vessels. Adrenalin chloride will raise the blood pressure.

SANDFLIES.

Professor Robert Newstead, of Chester, who was despatched to Malta by the Liverpool Tropical School of Medicine to investigate the problem of the serious menace to health by sandflies, has returned after an absence of three months. Practical measures for dealing with disease-carrying insects in the island will be embodied in a report which Professor Newstead is drafting. He has brought back a considerable amount of material not only in connection with the special object of his investigation, but also into other forms of tropical disease in Malta.

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