

Another important point to remember is the temperature of the room to be disinfected. Thorough disinfection cannot be obtained at a temperature of less than 65 deg. A temperature of 65 deg or better, with a certain amount of moisture, is essential for complete disinfection.

Formaldehyde disinfection of rooms and contents is, therefore, accomplished in four principal ways:—

First. By the distillation into the room of a 40 per cent. solution in the proportion of not less than eight ounces of formaldehyde for each 1,000 cubic feet of air space.

Second. By the volatisation of solidified formaldehyde (paraform) into the room in the proportion of not less than two ounces for each 1,000 cubic feet of air space.

Third. By sprinkling a 40 per cent. solution of formaldehyde on sheets hung on lines within the room, in the proportion of from ten to twelve ounces per 1,000 cubic feet of air space, depending on the condition of the room, its temperature, moisture, tightness, etc.

Fourth. By the addition of formaldehyde to permanganate of potash, in the proportion of thirteen ounces of permanganate to one quart of formaldehyde for each 1,000 cubic feet of air space.

By this last method rapid chemical action is set up, and the formaldehyde gas evolved in a very short time. As rapid volatisation is essential to thorough and complete disinfection this fourth method is especially to be recommended.

Directions for the proper distillation or vaporisation of formaldehyde accompany the various apparatus which are sold for that purpose.

In determining the amount of disinfectant of any kind to be used, the tightness of the room, the temperature, moisture, and the amount of penetration desired, should all be carefully considered.

A temperature of not less than 65 deg. Fahr., and a moist condition in the room, is most favourable to thorough aerial disinfection. Sprinkling the floors, and, where it can be done without injury, the walls of the room just before fumigation, will secure the proper condition of humidity.

After fumigation, washing the woodwork (especially around cracks and openings that have been sealed up) with a 1-1000 solution of bichloride of mercury, and the boiling and subsequent washing of all articles of clothing, bedding, and draperies that were in the room and can be so treated, is recommended.

(To be concluded.)

## The Nursing Masque.

During the past week a number of the most interesting characters in the Nursing Masque have been allotted, and it is quite wonderful how enthusiastically and artistically the nurses and their friends mean to play their parts. Four quite lovely young people are to impersonate Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, and the dresses, if carried out as designed, will become their particular styles of beauty. All the dresses will be of one period—Earth with an underdress of golden brown, and fresh green ninon tunic and sleeves, flowers, fruits, and gorgeous jewelled cincture and fillet; Air, soft, misty, blue and silver, and a tiara of silver stars; Fire, flame satin, orange chiffon, and burnished tissue, the coiffure surmounted by a golden sun, and gold and flame coloured jewels; Water, aquamarine, with overdress of crystallised chiffon and ropes of pearls. This charming quartette will be grouped around Hygeia in pure white.

To the left will be the Spirit of Nursing in clouds of pearl grey, and her galaxy of Attributes, in every tender tint—Rose for Compassion, Gold for Kindness, Gentleness in Grey, for Modesty Mauve, Crimson for Courage, Patience in Blue, Purple for Devotion, and Endurance Green.

The Science of Nursing will be gowned in robes of academic style, a long crimson gown over black, with crimson cap; Truth, a robe of shining white through faintest blue, her two supporters, Mental Purity and Moral Beauty, in simple white and silver frocks.

Knowledge, academic robe in a beautiful shade of blue, with shimmering underdress, and she and her four Attributes—two in rose and black and two in blue and black—will wear "blue stockings," buckled shoes, and satin caps.

Of Saints, Queens, Roman Matrons, Abbesses, Sisters, and Nurses there will be a stately procession, and great interest is being taken in arranging correct costumes.

The Matrons and Nurses in Processions 3 and 4 will wear Uniforms and Badges, but the Registration Acts, Bills, and Journals will also have distinctive emblems. The Banners will be few and tasteful, in purple, crimson, pale and Royal blue, white, and green satin.

No nursing pageant would be quite complete without the immortal Gamp, and in spite of her lack of beauty and virtue, she is just the one character to impersonate whom there has been the keenest competition amongst nurses. This speaks volumes for their lack of vanity, and we feel sure the lady to be entrusted with the part will thoroughly enjoy it.

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