

Concerning this question we also did ourselves the pleasure of calling upon the matron of the Royal Ear Hospital, Soho, to enquire what precautions were taken in connection with out-patient operations. Miss MacFarlane, whose courtesy to the public is proverbial, a fact which goes far in making an institution popular, gave us all the information possible.

The following instructions are given or sent to the patients, whose operations are of such a nature as will permit them with safety to be treated as out-patients, but we learned that the most careful discrimination is used after the operation in discharging them. The wrap is ordered to be used for fear of chill, and the clean towel to cover mouth, nose, or ear as required. Verbal instructions for after-care of the patients are in each case given to those responsible by the matron herself, or one of her assistants.

All the arrangements at this well-conducted little hospital appear to be very complete. We found it exquisitely clean and orderly.

ROYAL EAR HOSPITAL,

DEAN STREET, SOHO, W.

OUT-PATIENT OPERATION.

It will be necessary for the Patient to be at the Hospital at precisely, on the and to pay 2s. 6d. for gas, or bring a Subscriber's letter.

He or she must take an aperient on evening. On morning he or she can have a light breakfast of toast and tea, and a cup of Bovril at a.m.

A friend must accompany the Patient. Please bring a wrap to travel in, also a clean towel.

The Patient will return home in a few hours' time.

E. M. MACFARLANE,
Matron.

The following are the printed directions which the caretaker of each out-patient operated upon should receive at the Throat Hospital:—

THE THROAT HOSPITAL,

GOLDEN SQUARE, W.

(For Diseases of the Throat, Nose and Ear.)

Directions for the Care of Patients after the Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids.

(1) Drive home with mouth covered over; keep in bed two days and in the house at least four days.

(2) Avoid exposure to bad smells and infection from persons suffering with fever of any kind, or with "cold in the head."

(3) For the first 48 hours all food should be soft and lukewarm.

(4) In the case of bleeding, lie on the back with the arms extended over the head and suck ice. If the bleeding is not checked by this means, come

to the hospital or send for a doctor. With a view to preventing bleeding, violent exertion in either work or play should be prohibited, and stooping should be especially avoided for five or six days.

(5) In case of earache or deafness, come to the hospital or send for a doctor. If there is pain behind the ear and fever, come to the hospital if possible.

(6) As soon as possible the habit of mouth breathing should be corrected. The patient should breathe in and out through the nose whilst the mouth is tightly closed for five minutes three or four times daily. Drilling and gymnastic exercises performed with the mouth closed are also useful. The nose should be kept quite clean by the frequent use of the handkerchief.

Patients should attend hospital for examination, on their usual day, as near as possible after the expiration of one week from the operation.

THE MANAGEMENT OF OUT-PATIENTS' DEPARTMENTS.

We should like to see in use the directions given before operations at the Royal Ear Hospital, and those recommended after operations at the Throat Hospital, combined and put into practice in the throat, nose and ear clinics attached to the out-patients' departments of every hospital, general and special, added to which the suggestion we put forward last week that sterilised gauze dressings should be provided in every case by the hospital.

A PRIZE OF TEN SHILLINGS.

To arouse interest in this suggestion we offer a prize of Ten Shillings to the designer of the most suitable dressing for the purpose, made so that it can be kept over the mouth and nose with ease and comfort. The designs made in gauze must reach the editorial office, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., by Tuesday, October 10th.

NURSES AT HISTORIC ALNWICK.

Through the kindness of the Duchess of Northumberland, President of the Northumberland County Nursing Association, upwards of 200 nurses and ladies of the committee from each of the sixty-five districts in the county of Northumberland were recently entertained at Alnwick Castle. They were cordially received by the Duchess and some of her daughters. After luncheon a dramatic entertainment was given in the Guest Hall, which they greatly enjoyed, and were shown the magnificent rooms of the ancient castle. Tea was served in the Guest Hall. Everyone was delighted with the kindly reception extended by the President, to whom they were indebted for charming hospitality.

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