

one cause of hypodermic abscesses. As a precaution against infection from unclean skin at the point of puncture, she advocates washing with alcohol applied with a sterile sponge. After the injection of the drug ordered the spot should be gently kneaded to help absorption.

Miss Bleazby writes that the causes of hypodermic abscesses may be divided into exciting causes and predisposing causes. Probably the hypodermic abscess most frequently met with is due to sepsis, the irritant in this case being a micro-organism. Any undissolved particles in the fluid injected may also act as irritants and cause abscess formation, as may too large a bulk, too strong a preparation, or a preparation of an irritating nature. The predisposing causes are those which lower the resisting powers of the tissues and render them more liable to be affected than they would otherwise be. Many diseases are predisposing causes, especially those in which the nutrition of the skin suffers—*i.e.*, paralysis and other disease of the nervous system, anæmia, and other diseases of the blood, etc. Injuries to the spinal cord, heredity, old age, etc., are also predisposing causes.

Miss Macfarlane also emphasises a lowered condition of the system of the patient as a predisposing cause to abscesses, as he is then not in a position to resist any infection which may have occurred.

QUESTION FOR THIS WEEK.

Mention some abnormal appearances of stools and the probable causes of the condition.

Rules for competing in this competition will be found on page xii.

The National Insurance Bill.

Many nurses who are anxious to know how the National Insurance Bill now before the House of Commons will affect their interests will learn with pleasure that a public meeting of nurses will be held at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., on Monday, July 10th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. D. F. Pennant, Hon. Secretary and member of Council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, will give an address on "The National Insurance Bill." As will be understood from our Editorial remarks, nurses are closely affected by the Bill, and we hope that as many as possible will make a point of attending the meeting and hearing its provisions explained.

The Coronation.

Vivat! Vivat! Rex Georgius!
Vivat! Vivat! Regina Maria!

The sacring and crowning of King George V. and his Queen Consort Mary is accomplished, and around the world the glory of it has resounded.

In this place to describe the ceremonial of the Coronation in detail is impossible, yet may we touch on the solemnity of the religious service, on the stupendous grandeur of the scene within the Abbey Church of Westminster, and on the human emotion of the hour.

Privileged to attend the Coronation we have it in mind to live every minute of those magic hours. In the grey dawn we awake, and watch the day lighten, and soon after five come to the closed doors of the Abbey the first guest to arrive with a card of admission. The morning is sweet and fresh, and a free hour gives time for a tour around within the barriers, through which happy people begin to pass. Wonderful preparations for the seating of those who can pay are to be seen on all sides—tier upon tier of gaily decorated seats have been erected, and Westminster Hospital has thus almost disappeared from view. In Parliament Square, Parliament Street, indeed, as far as eye can see, gorgeously decorated seats are ready. Thus early the pavements are sparsely peopled, and around the Abbey no one is permitted to stand.

At six of the clock there crosses from Westminster Hospital to the Abbey a Sister, followed by a band of neatly uniformed nurses—like a little flock of doves—each carrying a little basket containing all the necessary nursing appliances for the restoration and comfort of those who later may suddenly require them. These little Sisters of Mercy disappear within the gates of the Abbey, and are to be seen later, stationed in conjunction with a medical officer, in the various sections into which the audience is divided, and from which, as they well deserve, they have a fine view of the magnificent ceremony.

The Nursing Sisters and men of the St. John Ambulance Association are early on the scene, and are later stationed at 54 separate positions along the route of the Procession.

By 6.30, when the Abbey gates are opened, quite a little crowd of the happy few favoured with cards of invitation are awaiting admittance. Amongst them robed peers and peeresses, men in Court dress and uniform, and ladies décolleté, in shimmering satin gowns, veils, plumes, and gems, and so hum-

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