

admitted, they were rubbed with the zinc and oil mixture. After a time a nurse in an infirmary seems to understand when to use the one treatment, and when to use the other, but the golden rule seems to be: "When in doubt, use the zinc and oil."

In private work it has fallen to my lot to be called in to phthisical patients and others, who were in the last stages of their disease. If I found any broken skin, the zinc and oil dressing seemed to heal the places like magic. So far I have never found it to fail, yet I have met many nurses who have never heard of this mixture, and who show a great unwillingness to experiment with it.

A. M. CAMERON.

Care Following Operations.

The following are the instructions given to out-patients, after the following operations, at the Protestant Hospital, Bordeaux, kindly sent to us by Dr. Anna Hamilton.

Precautions to be taken after Turbinectomy.

1. The patient should remain in his room for 24 hours.
2. Only soft food should be taken during this period—milk diet, eggs, and soup.
3. As long as slight bleeding from the nose continues it should be sponged occasionally with a cotton wool swab.
4. The patient should avoid blowing the nose for two days, and afterwards should blow only one nostril at a time, very gently.

The patient should present himself at the hospital on the fourth day.

Precautions to be observed after the Removal of Adenoids.

1. The patient should remain in bed for 48 hours with the head raised by pillows. An ointment, composed of the following ingredients, should be applied inside the nose morning and evening:—

The ointment to be compounded of Chlorhydrate of cocaine, menthol, boric-acid, and vaseline.

2. On the day of the operation take from time to time small pieces of ice and cold and iced liquids.
3. As long as there is slight bleeding from the nose sponge it with a cotton wool swab, and do not use a pocket-handkerchief.
4. Remain in one room for four or five days and take semi-solid food, soup, milk, eggs without bread, and milk diet.
5. Return to the Protestant Hospital a month later.

Precautions after the removal of tonsils.

1. The patient should remain in his room for 48 hours, and keep wadding in his ears.
2. He should have his head well raised in bed.
3. He should take small pieces of ice from time to time and only cold liquid food on the day of the operation.

He should gargle with a prescribed gargle, and return to the Protestant Hospital a month after the operation.

SCOTTISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, the 9th December, in the Y.W.C.A. Rooms, 116, George Street, Edinburgh. The President occupied the chair. Thirty members were present. Five new members were elected.

Miss Gill in her opening remarks spoke of the Nurses' Memorial to King Edward VII. As the members had probably learnt through the Press, the total sum collected through Miss Cave's Central Committee was £3,323, and of this over £1,100 had come from Scotland and was ear-marked for Scotland. She thought that all who had worked for the fund would consider this a very gratifying result. However, they must not rest satisfied with it, but next year make a fresh effort to augment the sum.

The National Insurance Bill was again discussed. The feeling of the meeting was that at the present stage it would be unwise to take any steps regarding the probable position of nurses as insured persons, but that it was very desirable to express an opinion as to the standard of nursing that it was proposed to supply under the Bill, and the following resolution was put to the meeting and carried:

"That, in the opinion of the Scottish Matrons' Association, it is of the utmost importance that it be ensured that in administering the nursing benefit provided under the Insurance Bill, the Local Health Committees shall employ trained nurses, and that, both in the interests of the general public and of trained nurses the term 'Trained Nurse' shall be defined by statute."

An interesting letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in reply to a private nurse was read. The answers to the various questions asked were as follows:—

"1. When a nurse is employed by more than one employer, the question as to which employer is liable to pay contributions on her behalf will be determined by the Insurance Commissioners.

"2. During periods of unemployment nurses are liable to pay the full contribution, viz., 6d., in order to avoid falling to arrears, but it will be open to their societies, through which they will receive the benefits of the State scheme, to excuse the employer's share, namely, 3d. It must also be remembered that the provisions of the Bill as to arrears are exceptionally generous.

"3. There is no unemployment benefit for nurses."

After the meeting tea was served.

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