

water and crust of bread given after it. Many patients like sugar added to Epsom Salts.

Liquorice and all gritty powders of the same sort should be carefully mixed with water till they are quite smooth and liquid.

Powders such as "Pyramidon" may be given in a spoonful of jam if preferred.

But if a patient can be persuaded to "hold his nose" firmly by the nostrils and to swallow the medicine while doing so, afterwards taking a sweet or drink of water before leaving go, no taste will be appreciable at all.

A good nurse will usually find some means of coaxing a refractory child or patient to take any nasty mixture that may be ordered. Common sense in this, as in most other matters, will show the best way appropriate to each case.

Miss E. Stanton prefers to give croton oil on bread crumbs, or in glycerine or mucilage.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

What are the fundamental principles underlying the practice of modern midwifery and maternity nursing? How would you apply them when summoned to a case?

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

Miss Child writes from the Government Hospital, Mhales Hoek, Basutoland, that her leave has been granted, to enable her to come home and attend the Cologne Congress, and she will bring with her up-to-date information, from the Colonial Medical Secretary, of changes and improvements in nurse training in South Africa. Miss Child is greatly looking forward to meeting again many cultured women in the nursing world, and learning many things which may be useful to put into practice in far away Basutoland. Speaking of the "black peril," she quite disagrees with the views of the Mayor of Beaconsfield, and has many times been told that the nursing of natives by educated white nurses has a far-reaching moral effect for good. Miss Child thinks it will take more than one generation to train natives, many of whom are most intelligent and advanced in learning, to take entire charge of wards, because they do not give orders nicely to each other, and often please themselves as to obeying a fellow-native. It is interesting to know that surgery is very up to date at Mhales Hoek, and patients come from a very long distance to receive attention there.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The Meeting of the General Council was held on Thursday, 15th inst., at the Offices, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, in the chair.

After the Minutes had been read, by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Beatrice Cutler, and confirmed, a communication was considered from the National Union of Women Workers *re* the National Insurance Bill. A resolution was passed unanimously, and directed to be forwarded to the Secretary.

Also one from the Catholic Nurses' Association (Ireland), reporting that at the first general meeting of the Association it was unanimously resolved to apply for affiliation with the National Council, and asking for conditions. The President reported that she had forwarded a copy of the Constitution of the National Council and other information. It was resolved that if the Constitution of the Catholic Nurses' Association were in order, the application be agreed to.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

The President proposed that a vote of thanks be sent to Miss Cox-Davies for the delivery of the First Isla Stewart Oration at the Guildhall in November, and also to Miss Cutler for the admirable arrangements made on that occasion and for the celebration of the Dickens Centenary at the Doré Galleries on the 7th inst.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL.

The President reported that an invitation had been received from Sister Agnes Karll, President of the International Council of Nurses, to attend the Triennial Meeting at Cologne on August 5th next. In connection with the meeting of the International Council a Nursing Congress and Exhibition would be held, and the help of the National Council was invited.

Resolutions on State Registration of Nurses and on Woman's Suffrage would be brought before the International Council. A President for the next Triennial period would be elected, and in this connection Miss Dock reported that an invitation from three Pacific Coast States would be received to hold the next meeting at San Francisco during the World's Fair of 1915, to celebrate the completion of the Panama Canal. That under these circumstances an American President from the State of California itself, as so much must be done on the spot, would be advisable, although Miss Dock remarked characteristically "national lines are not of moment to me as a general thing."

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