

vision, somewhat as follows: Prolonged sitz baths containing some antiseptic are given at least three times daily. The routine treatment of swabbing is carried out night and morning, and a special preparation prepared by Dr. Watson, and named by him L.A.B. Pessarines, is used in all cases suffering from gonorrhœa. The patient is kept under treatment, not only until she appears clinically well, but also until after repeated bacteriological examination she is pronounced bacteriologically well. She is then dismissed and asked to report herself periodically for inspection, to see that she remains well. (The letters L.A.B. stand for Lactic Acid Bacillus.—Ed.)

SYPHILITIC CASES.

Up till a few years ago these cases were treated simply with mercury, mercurial baths, and potassium iodide, but since Ehrlich put his new preparation of 606, or salvarsan, on the market the patients have been treated with it. First of all the original salvarsan was used, and then neo-salvarsan. Each patient gets two, three or four doses of neo-salvarsan, according to what is found necessary, while at the same time she is put on mercurial treatment; when all the symptoms disappear she is dismissed from the hospital, but is asked to return once per week for medical examination, to ensure that the cure is complete, and not that the symptoms are only put in abeyance.

The nursing of gonorrhœal and syphilitic patients should be carried out in different wards, both for children and adults. A child admitted with a discharge to a children's or any other hospital should always be isolated, until seen by the doctor; if not, and the discharge should be of a gonorrhœal character, the whole ward might become contaminated, and girls are more subject than boys to contagion. Young children suffering from gonorrhœa should not be allowed to wash themselves in baths or sitz baths; a nurse with her hands protected can wash and dress each child, and it is a good plan, with a continual discharge, to apply a bandage specially designed for such cases, this being a safeguard to prevent further contamination. Particular care is needed in the changing of the bed-clothing. I consider it would be an advantage, and also a convenience, to the nurse, when giving children sitz baths, to have the baths fixed on a stand 2 ft. 6 in. from the floor, with the outlet for lotions, or water, at the back or side, and not the ordinary plug commonly used. It is easy for the child to contract disease by wearing apparel, sitting on chairs, stools, or the floor, baths or lavatories; this is why wards or a hospital should be set apart for the nursing of such cases.

Opinions differ greatly, but it seems to me a wrong that a stigma should be attached to a Lock Hospital more than any other hospital nursing special diseases. In many cases the disease is contracted innocently, as in those of married women, babies and children, and it is essential that patients should have the best skilled nursing

possible. Nursing syphilitic children is carried out on the same lines as that of adults. The saliva of syphilitic patients may be infected. I have known a case of a five-year-old child admitted after contracting syphilis through sucking a sweet after a diseased baby; it is therefore important to see that drinking vessels, &c., should be kept separate, and nurses on the district, health visitors, school nurses, &c., have ample opportunity of explaining and cautioning mothers and guardians of the dangers of gonorrhœa and syphilis.

At the present time there is no work more interesting than the nursing of venereal disease, and knowledge is most important, so that all necessary precautions are taken on the admission of a patient, whether this be in Lock wards or general hospital. There are many nurses trained, and in training, who do not realise what to expect when a suspicious case is brought under their notice.

PROBATIONERS.

Owing to the disfavour in which this work is viewed, probationers are not always readily obtained. They are engaged for one year, and may, if efficient, and so inclined, stay longer. Those, however, who are anxious for general training are advised and helped to seek the first



GOGGLES IN USE AT LOCK HOSPITAL, GLASGOW.

opening. They have longer off-duty times than in general hospital, having two clear hours five days in the week, and on the other day from 2 to 10 one week, and from 4 to 10 the next, alternate Sunday mornings from 9.30 to 1, and afternoons from 2 to 10, and a clear day once a month. The salary is £18 a year and uniform, and should the nurse remain beyond her year it is raised. The new probationer is made familiar at the very outset with the danger that exists of contracting disease, and the absolute necessity for wearing gloves on all occasions when treating patients, care being exercised also to prevent contagion from one patient to another. She is taught how to douche and pass the speculum, to make and apply tampons, testing of urine, and the ordinary routine ward work. It is the nurses' duty to give each patient her ordinary and sitz baths, and to see that the bath is cleansed and carbolised, and that the loose plugs after use are properly sterilised. A long brass hook to withdraw the plug is provided to save any possibility of contagion. As a safeguard the nurse should also wear goggles when douching, swabbing throats, bathing or syringing the eyes.

During the winter months classes are held each week, when a rudimentary knowledge of nursing

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