

erythema with purpura on the lower limbs. The eruption is at its height about the fourth or fifth day, and the epidermis gradually separates, leaving a raw, rather dry red surface. In some cases seen early the vesicles dried up with desquamation. In a few instances the feet were affected after the hands, probably by contact. Occasionally the face has been involved, and in one instance a widely spread eczematous eruption formed. Most of the patients were in a nervous condition when first seen, and in others this developed later from loss of sleep. In a few instances relapses are continuing, but are not so severe as the primary attack. Patients who wore gloves to clean up their houses suffered most severely.

PYREXIA.

Three patients were admitted to the ward on account of the severity of the symptoms. One case ran an apyretic course; in two others the temperature reached 100° F. on two evenings.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Dr. Western examined fluid from three cases. In the early stages the serum in the bullae was sterile. In one *Staphylococcus epidermidis albus* was found, and in another, already suppurating, *Staphylococcus pyogenes aureus*.

TREATMENT OF THE DERMATITIS.

When the eruption has developed, the parts should be washed as little as possible, but the alkaline solution may be used without risk. I have found that the best local application is a liniment of calamine (calamine 70 grains, lime water 1 oz., olive oil 1 oz.). This rarely fails to allay irritation and to promote healing. If the parts become septic, the usual remedies are of service, and in a very bad case I found that spraying the parts daily with a malachite-green sublimate solution was of great value. The solution, which we owe to McIntosh and Fildes, is made as follows:—Malachite green 1 part, hydrarg. perchlor. 0.5 part, spirit. vin. rect. 100 parts.

CAUSATION.

The substance which is the cause of the dermatitis appears to be hexa-nitro-diphenylamine. The phenomena are identical with those caused by aurantia, an orange dye (ammonium hexanitrophenylamine) which has been used for the dyeing of cheap brown shoes and other leather articles.

I understand that hexa-nitro-diphenylamine is recognized as an explosive substance, and that it is combined with trinitrotoluene in the bombs which have been used in the recent air raids in this country.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

At the Investiture at Aldershot on Wednesday in last week, on the Queen's Parade, the following members of the Nursing Profession were decorated by the King:—

THE MILITARY MEDAL.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Mrs. F. L. Crofton (Staff Nurse Annie R. Colbrun).

ROYAL RED CROSS.

FIRST CLASS.—Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service: Matrons—Ethel Barber and Kathleen Holmes.

SECOND CLASS.—Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service: Matron Cecilia Stevens. Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve: Sisters Eleanor Blythe, Mary Loughron, Constance Macnaughton. Territorial Force Nursing Service: Sister Daisy Edgely and late Sister Nancy Jones. Canadian Army Nursing Service: Sisters Emma Peuse and Florence Wylie. New Zealand Army Nursing Service: Sister Jean Gilmer. South African Military Nursing Service: Sister Mary Tilney.

At the Investiture at Buckingham Palace on August 3rd, the following Sisters and nurses were decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross:—

SECOND CLASS.—Sisters Ruby MacLaughlin, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Sister Ethel Watmore, Territorial Force Nursing Service; Sister Margaret Morris, Civil Nursing Service; Sister Cecilia Robb, Nursing Staff of Civil Hospitals; Sister Lucy Taylor, Civil Nursing Service; Sister Elizabeth Kemsley and Sister Mabel Packham, East African Nursing Service, and Sister Annie Johnston, Canadian Red Cross, attached Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.

The Sisters and Nurses were subsequently received by Queen Alexandra at Marlborough House.

Miss E. M. McCarthy, R.R.C. (Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, British Expeditionary Force, France), who is at present at home on convalescent leave, was last week received by Queen Alexandra at Marlborough House.

It is stated that, as a result of the intervention of the Spanish Government, the German Government has agreed to give hospital ships a safe passage provided that each carries a Spanish naval officer, who guarantees that the ship is used only for the transport of the sick and wounded. Let us hope that trained nurses will be reinstated in the positions which they would never have vacated had they not been under orders.

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