

delirium, sleeplessness, nausea and vomiting, optic disturbance and constipation.

NURSING.

Intelligent and watchful nursing is of the greatest importance, its object being:—(1) To allay inflammation and promote the secretion of urine, as this washes away the inflammatory debris from the tubules; (2) To throw more work on the other excretory organs; (3) To support the patient's strength, as the disease is a very exhausting one; (4) To note adverse symptoms at the first onset, that they may be dealt with immediately.

GENERAL TREATMENT.

The patient should be clothed in flannel and should be nursed between blankets. Fresh air and warmth must be secured, and all draughts and chilling carefully avoided. Hot packs, hot bottles, and vapour or hot-air baths are frequently employed to encourage the free action of the skin. The urine must be measured and tested daily and a chart kept. The temperature and the condition of the pulse must be noted frequently.

LOCAL TREATMENT.

These include dry and wet cupping, poultices and fomentations over the region of the kidneys. When dropsy is very marked, the fluid is sometimes removed by puncturing, or by the use of Southey's tubes.

DIET.

This is of vast importance, as by far the best way to promote the secretion of urine and to flush the tubules is by giving plenty of bland fluid drinks, such as lemonade, milk, barley water, lime water, citrate of potassium, etc. As convalescence approaches, other nourishing articles of diet may be included, but the addition must be gradual, and nitrogenous substances such as red meats, etc., should be avoided for a considerable period. When dropsy is a troublesome feature, a "salt-free" diet is often prescribed.

DRUGS.

These include: Jalap or blue pill, to promote free, watery motions of the bowels; diuretics, such as digitalis, and diaphoretics, such as pilocarpine; while, at a later stage, tonics are often necessary. In severe cases, stimulants may be required, and where there is severe pain sedatives may be prescribed.

Any complications must be dealt with as they arise. These may include:—Severe dyspnoea, due to interference with the action of the heart and lungs by excessive dropsy; uræmia, due to the effect on the nervous system by the absorption of certain of the urinary elements, and heart failure. Bed sores must be guarded against, as the distended tissues are very tender and unhealthy. Lastly, it must be remembered that the tone of the system has suffered from the deprivation of albumen during its loss in the urine, and the patient should have a long convalescence, with every care, avoiding chills, and preferably in a warm, dry climate.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss Daisy Evelyn Lee, Miss Jane Thomas.

QUESTION FOR NEXT MONTH.

Name four varieties of packs and the purpose for which each may be given. Describe the method of giving one of them.

NURSING ECHOES.

Nurses who contemplate taking up private nursing will find that the present time is a good opportunity to begin this work. As will be seen from our Advertisement Supplement, the Registered Nurses' Association, 39, Portland Place, London, W., is prepared to consider applications from a limited number of Registered Nurses, holding three years' certificates of training from hospitals of not less than 100 beds.

Private nursing requires very special qualities, but to those who possess them it is a very congenial and interesting form of work.

Miss A. Cattell has arranged with her friend, Mr. Tom Lovegrove, for a play to be given at the Rudolf Steiner Hall, 33, Park Road, Clarence Gate, N.W.1 (close to Baker Street Station) on Saturday, November 3rd, at 8 p.m. sharp. The entertainment will be in aid of the Princess Christian Memorial Fund. The play is "Interference," by Ronald Pertwee and Harold Dearden, and we are indebted to the kindness of W. Barry O'Brien, Esq., for permission to play it in aid of the funds of the Memorial.

We are informed that this entertainment is likely to prove a most successful production, for "Interference" is a fine piece of dramatic writing, and Mr. Tom Lovegrove's Company has had so many successful performances in the past that those who are able to avail themselves of the privilege of seeing the play may feel themselves assured of a most enjoyable evening. The cost of the tickets will be 7/6, 5/—, 3/6, and 2/— and Miss Cattell asks us to say she hopes her fellow Members will do all that they can to help with the sale of these. They can be had on application to the Secretary, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

The first Reunion and Tenth Anniversary Dinner of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service was held on Friday, September 21st, in the Richelieu Rooms, Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C., and was unanimously acclaimed a most enjoyable and inspiring occasion.

The guests included Lady Trenchard, Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, D.B.E., the Reverend R. E. Vernon Hanson, O.B.E., K.H.C., Chaplain-in-Chief R.A.F., and Mrs. Vernon Hanson, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs. Munro, and many of the senior medical officers of the Royal Air Force with their wives.

The guests were received by Miss J. M. Cruickshank, C.B.E., R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief P.M., R.A.F., N.S. Evening dress and decorations were worn, and a very happy party of 112 assembled for dinner, with the Matron-in-Chief in the chair.

The tables were charmingly decorated with bronze and gold chrysanthemums. Silver cardboard monoplanes in miniature carried the place-cards, which were suspended from the air-screw by silk cords in the R.A.F. colours. The souvenir menu cards had very interesting photographic reproductions of the R.A.F. Hospitals in 1918 and those of to-day, together with the old and new badges and titles of the Nursing Service of the respective periods.

After the loyal toasts of "The King," "The Queen," H.R.H. Princess Mary and other Members of the Royal

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