

gested that there is a falling off in the male hormone produced by the testis and as a result the prostate enlarges. In 1933 Lacassagne, a French scientist, injected mice with oestrin, a female hormone. After a certain number of injections the prostatic lobes enlarged, retention of urine developed, and a condition comparable to prostatic enlargement resulted. These findings were confirmed in this country by Burrows and Dennaway. It was also found that if male hormone was injected into the mice, at the same time as the oestrin injections were given, retention of urine did not follow. Zuckermann working at Oxford was able to produce in the Rhesus monkey, by oestrin injections, various changes in the prostatic urethra and these changes were removed or prevented by injections of male hormone. It was thought as a result of this work that the injections of male hormone into patients suffering from prostatic enlargement would cure the condition. I have treated over 30 patients in the last two years with various preparations for this purpose, but unfortunately the results were very poor. This may be due to the fact that the dose injected was too small, the preparation not strong enough or what is most likely that the injections were given when the condition was so well-established that a good result would not follow. Probably the injections should be given much earlier and probably also a larger and a purer preparation will have to be obtained.

I have very briefly covered some of the most interesting episodes in the whole field of medicine. The two outstanding landmarks were the invention of the cystoscope and the discovery of X-rays. You will readily appreciate that these discoveries were made as recently as 50 years ago and before that time kidney and bladder surgery was enshrouded in the darkness of quackery and ignorance. The cystoscope and X-rays have made diagnosis accurate and, without accurate diagnosis, there can be no intelligent approach to treatment and cure.

Mr. Carver illustrated his lecture by means of an X-Ray view box, and also showed a number of instruments now in use in urological surgery.

At the close of the lecture Her Royal Highness called for a vote of thanks to Mr. Carver. This was proposed by Mrs. Hamilton Gibson who expressed the appreciation of the Members of such a valuable lecture. It had been most interesting indeed and contained much information that they had not before possessed; the historical aspects in particular had interested her very much. In thanking Mr. Carver for his lecture she would also take the opportunity to thank him and Miss Ingman, Matron of St. Mary Abbots Hospital, for a very great deal of kindness extended to individual Members of the Association. The vote of thanks was seconded by Mrs. Reidy.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Her Royal Highness for presiding, Miss Cowie referred to the every-ready sympathy and support, always extended by Members of the Royal Family in matters that concerned the welfare of the people. As a nurse and a Scotchwoman it gave her, for two reasons, great pleasure to have the honour of proposing this vote of thanks. Her Royal Highness had honoured the profession—and she would go so far as to say that she had honoured herself—by qualifying as a State Registered Nurse. Her Royal Highness's interest in all branches of nursing was well known and she still continued her work in hospital. In the second place Her Royal Highness held one of the proudest and most honoured Scottish titles—that of Duchess of Fife in her own right. Both votes of thanks were carried with enthusiasm. Her Royal Highness then took tea in the Council Chamber, where several Members had the honour of being presented.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NURSING CONFERENCE.

The Sub-Committee appointed to arrange the one day Conference on nursing questions of urgent importance met on Tuesday, July 19th, at 39, Portland Place, London, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss G. V. Hillyers, Miss M. F. Hughes, Miss E. M. Musson, Miss Helen Dey, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss H. McLoughlin and Miss S. A. Villiers, Hon. Secretary. The meeting was called for the purpose of receiving a Report concerning the reservation of accommodation at the Caxton Hall for the Conference, and to consider the details of the Programme of the Conference.

As accommodation at the Caxton Hall was rapidly booked up for meetings after October, the President reported that she had signed the contract to reserve the Great Hall, holding 500, for morning, afternoon and evening sessions, and the York Hall, holding 300, for the morning and afternoon sessions for November 10th, at a reduced inclusive fee of £19 8s. 6d. This action was confirmed.

Suggestions for the arrangement of the Programme, sent in by members of the Sub-Committee, were carefully considered, and it was unanimously agreed that the Programme be drafted in the following manner, as in one day's Conference it was not possible to include all the suggestions submitted by the member associations.

MORNING SESSION, GREAT HALL, 10.30 a.m.

Hospital Administration.—Its economic aspects in relation to:

Housing of staff—Hostels—The option of trained staff to live out—The 48-hour week and the 96-hour fortnight; ratio of nurses to patients.

Salaries, superannuation, interchangeability of pension schemes.

MORNING SESSION, YORK HALL, 10.30 a.m.

The Nursing Care of the Sick Outside Hospitals.
—Private Nurses—Visiting Nurses—District Nurses
—Nursing Co-operations—Nursing Homes, Inspection by State Registered Nurses.

Legislation.

AFTERNOON SESSION, GREAT HALL, 2.30 p.m.

Education and Training of the Nurse.—Its adjustment to modern requirements.

Recruitment.

Age of entry and "the interim period."

Central Preliminary Training Schools.

A more comprehensive general training.

The value of the State Examination.

AFTERNOON SESSION, YORK HALL, 2.30 p.m.

Nursing of the Chronic Sick of the Aged and Infirm:
A defined status and supervision of the "Assistant Nurse."

Organised System of Professional Propaganda.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)