

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR RESPIRATOR.

During the last few days large numbers of respirators have been supplied to the public. The following necessary instructions have also been issued.

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| 1. DON'T expose respirator to moisture or dirt. This causes deterioration of all parts. | 1. Always wipe dry after use and keep respirator clean. |
| 2. DON'T hang up by head harness, nor over-stretch elastics. This causes rapid perishing of elastic. | 2. Always exercise care in adjustment. |
| 3. DON'T expose to heat, this causes cracking and perishing of rubber parts. | 3. Always keep in a cool, dry place. |
| 4. DON'T fold incorrectly, nor store for long periods. This causes distortion. | 4. Always put away carefully and use it for a few minutes occasionally. |
| 5. DON'T allow container to get wet. This will spoil chemicals and make breathing difficult. | 5. Always keep away from water. |
| 6. DON'T allow container to get dented. This will cause rust and increased resistance to breathing. | 6. Always treat with care and avoid rough usage. |

A SAFE HOT-WATER BOTTLE.

The comfort of a hot-water bottle when the nights begin to be chilly is unquestionable. Often it may make the difference between a sound night's sleep, bringing renewed strength to meet the demands of the new day, and a wakeful and restless night which finds one in the morning tired and unrefreshed.

But when purchasing a rubber hot-water bottle it is imperative that a bottle made by a well-known and reliable firm, who may be trusted to supply only bottles made of the best pure rubber, and with a safe stopper, should be procured.

Especially should nurses when recommending or purchasing a rubber bottle for a patient bear this in mind. The consequences to a patient ill, or unconscious, from the leakage or bursting of a hot-water bottle, attractive enough in appearance, but made of inferior material, may be serious indeed and even fatal.

In all seriousness, we urge this duty upon nurses for the protection of their patients, and recommend them to insist upon the "Eclipse" bottle supplied by Messrs. J. G. Ingram & Son, Ltd., London, E.9, whose bottles are made of best para rubber, reinforced with canvas, and the patented stoppers of which are fitted with reversible washers, which fit over the body of the stopper completely, so that they cannot possibly get loose or lost. The bottles also have a special neck which cannot twist or become loose. Nurses will not be slow to appreciate the importance of these points.

" FASHION'S FORECAST."

Messrs. Boyd Cooper, of 4 and 5, St. George Street, Hanover Square, London, W.1, who, as we notified in our last issue, have recently received the much prized distinction of makers of nurses' uniforms to Her Majesty the Queen, have issued an attractively illustrated booklet under the title "Fashion's Forecast," in which warm coats and gowns for morning, afternoon and evening are depicted. A personal call is desirable, but if evening customers prefer to have a range of patterns for preliminary consideration the firm will be pleased to submit them on request.

LEGAL MATTERS.**UNJUSTIFIABLE PROVISION.**

The inquest on a man of 82, suffering from bronchitis, whose body was exhumed on August 3rd from Macclesfield Cemetery, after burial on July 8th, by order of the Cheshire Coroner, Mr. J. A. K. Ferris, after receiving from the police a communication by a relative, was the occasion of much questioning by the coroner of Mrs. Eliza Harrison, one of the witnesses (represented by Mr. H. W. Wragg), who stated that she was "a certified midwife and had had nursing experience. Her daughter was married to Mrs. Woodcock's son."

On April 22nd she and her son-in-law found Mr. Woodcock at Macclesfield lying ill and took him to Prestbury. The coroner commented on the patient's being removed without his doctor being informed by Mrs. Harrison, who was a person of experience.

The most serious matter which transpired was that three weeks before he died Mr. Woodcock "began to get rough" and his son-in-law got some pills from the doctor attending him to keep him quiet. She did not know what the pills contained. She thought they contained morphia to make him sleep. The instructions were "One to be taken each night." She thought there were six in the first box.

The coroner reminded Mrs. Harrison that she informed the police that there were 12 pills in the box and she had two boxes. Mrs. Harrison said she did not know for certain that the pills contained morphia. They were very tiny pills. She had a third box for Mr. Woodcock.

The coroner enquired whether Mrs. Harrison was sure she never gave Mr. Woodcock more than three pills in the 24 hours, and she replied that on July 1 he had five; once, as he was so rough, he had two pills at once.

The coroner: "What, a double dose without asking the doctor?"

Mrs. Harrison said that on July 4, after a clap of thunder, Mr. Woodcock was trembling and appeared to be in pain. She gave him a pill and brandy and soda. Shortly afterwards he died.

Dr. W. H. Grace, Cheshire County Pathologist, said death was due to hardening of the arteries about the heart.

We have referred to this case, an admittedly difficult one to handle, to show the danger of a woman with little nursing knowledge administering at her discretion such a drug as morphia, in pills, with the strength of which she was unacquainted.

Her qualification was that of "certified midwife" and she stated in evidence that it was 30 years since she had worked in hospital.

We may remind our readers that, under the 1936 Midwives Act, State Certified Midwives who are not Registered Nurses are permitted to assume the office of nurse in rural districts by State Authority.

Nurses employed in the Croydon Municipal Hospitals and institutions recently decided, at a mass meeting, to send an application to the Town Council asking for higher pay, improved conditions of service, and the removal of petty restrictions.

TRUE TALE.

Said a small school child, "Please, Governess, I can't come to school this afternoon."

"How's that, Lily?"

"Mother's very ill, she's got twins and she thinks one will bust."

"I'm very sorry to hear that, Lily. What are their names?"

"Oo's nimes?"

"Why, the twins of course."

"I never ses she 'ad *twins*. I ses *twinses*."

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