

## MEDICAL MATTERS.

### TREATMENT WITH THE KROMAYER LAMP.

Dr. J. D. Hindley Smith, M.A. (Cantab.), B.Ch., M.R.C.S., in an article in *The Quartz Lamp*, extracted from *The Medical World*, gives an interesting description of the treatment which he has found to be most successful in dealing with infective pharyngitis with the Quartz Lamp.

Dr. Hindley Smith, who says treatment requires two to three months to complete, writes in part:—

"Where catarrhal exudation is present, as in most cases it is, irrigate the nasal passages with some form of saline solution, using an ordinary douche can containing a solution of pyrrhosol and water (minims 10 to the pint) warmed to body temperature. Failing pyrrhosol a normal saline solution can be employed for the purpose.

#### *The Technique of Throat and Post-nasal Irradiation with Ultra-violet Light.*

Irrigation of the naso-pharynx is followed by irradiation. The lamps which I employ for the purpose are Kromayer lamps having a water-cooled mercury vapour quartz burner emitting ultra-violet rays. The effect of ultra-violet light on the pharyngeal mucous membrane is biological rather than directly bactericidal. A 30 seconds' application of the Kromayer lamp to the pharyngeal mucous membrane produces in from four to six hours' time a mild inflammatory engorgement of the sub-epithelial capillary bed lasting for about 24 hours. It is probable that the beneficial results are due to the effect of this hyperæmia upon the activities of the columnar cells, resulting in the stimulation of their dormant bactericidal functions.

Ultra-violet light acts, therefore, as a stimulant irritant to the mucous membranes, restoring vital energy not only at the actual point of irradiation but throughout the whole of the naso-pharyngeal area. The degree of reaction following this application varies considerably with different subjects, some mucous membranes being abnormally sensitive to the rays.

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A fully effective Kromayer lamp should produce a slight erythema in a few hours following 30 seconds' application of the lamp against the skin. If it fails to do so further tests must be made to discover the time required to produce this effect, and full allowance must be made for this difference during treatment.

The treatment is given as follows:—

The patient is put in a semi-recumbent position with the back at an angle of about 45 degrees, and the head tilted further back with a pillow under the neck. The Kromayer lamp, with a special throat applicator, is turned on and allowed to run for about five minutes before being applied to the back of the throat, with the applicator approximately a quarter of an inch from the mucous membrane. Treatment is given as a first dose for a quarter of a minute to one side of the pharynx, and then for a quarter of a minute.

After the throat, the post-nasal area should be similarly treated. For this purpose I employ two short nasal quartz rods, protected, except for the terminal quarter-inch, by chromium-plated metal coverings, and fixed to the lamp attachment at a suitable distance apart. The rods are inserted into each nostril, as deeply as possible to reach the post-nasal space. Treatment is given for exactly the same length of time as to the throat.

If no undue reaction has occurred, the second dose should be given two days later, and increased to half a minute to either side of the throat.

### KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON. Appointment of Consultant on Hospital Finance.

The financial problems now confronting the voluntary hospitals have for some time past been engaging the active consideration of King Edward's Hospital Fund.

The King's Fund has for many years published an annual analysis of hospital income and expenditure which provides the hospitals with much valuable information. But the developments of recent years, both as regards the increased scale of hospital services and the new and expensive forms of treatment combined with the effects of recent legislation, have involved the hospitals in a number of new problems the solution of which could be materially assisted by the provision of an advisory service available to the hospitals generally.

The King's Fund has decided to place such a service at the disposal of the London voluntary hospitals and has appointed Captain J. E. Stone, at present Secretary of the Birmingham Hospitals Centre, to its staff as from June next.

### A TUDOR GARDEN AT THE IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION.

Red-roofed, half-timbered Tudor houses surrounding a paved garden, with a pond where goldfish swim and a cool fountain splashes . . . the "Ovaltine" stand is a restful spot to find in the middle of a huge, crowded exhibition.

When you visit the Ideal Home Exhibition, which opens on April 11th at Earl's Court, be sure not to miss this attractive stand. It is situated on the first floor of the Exhibition, and is easily reached if you turn left after ascending the main staircase. Remember the number of the stand—130—for it is an ideal "rendezvous" at which to await your friends. In the enclosed "garden" are little tables and chairs, where waitresses in the pretty red-and-white dress of the "Ovaltine" Girl serve refreshing cups of "Ovaltine" and crisp, delicious "Ovaltine" Rusks.

If you have not time to rest for a few minutes in the garden, just pause at one of the two "bars," at either side of the stand, where "Ovaltine" is served "over the counter." You will find that a cup of this delicious beverage will freshen you up at once, and give you the energy to enjoy to the full every minute of your day at the Exhibition.

And if you have taken the children to see the sights, remember that the Ovaltineys have a section of the stand for their very own. At one side is the Ovaltineys' "office," where enquiries can be made, and a "post box" where letters can be posted direct to the Chief Ovaltiney, while would-be members can obtain entrance forms and full details of this popular Children's League.

### SCIENTISTS FORM NUTRITION PANEL.

The formation of a Nutrition Panel, consisting of prominent food experts and scientists in every branch of research and industry, is announced by the Food Group of the Society of Chemical Industry.

The Panel, with Professor J. C. Drummond, professor of Bio-chemistry at London University, as chairman, Mr. A. L. Bacharach as honorary secretary, and Dr. G. W. Monier-Williams, Dr. Albert Green and Dr. Magnus Pyke on the committee, has been formed for the study of food in relation to health and disease. Its scope will include the production, processing and distribution of food for both human and animal consumption, and the manufacture and control of preparations for supplementing diets for medical use in the nutritional disorders.

Membership is open to all members of the Society of Chemical Industry and the Food Group, and regular meetings are being arranged for the New Year.

The work of the Panel began recently at a meeting of over 50 chemists and other research workers in London, when the committee was elected.

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