

DISTRICT ROUTINE.

Then follows the district routine; first the procedure in all cases and then the technique to be employed in various types of cases. All is eminently practical. Concerning General Nursing we are told that the attention given should be as complete as in hospital in addition to which the nurse is responsible for the care of the room and general nursing order.

Surgical Dressings.—All dressings, ointments, lotions, etc., should be kept together in a box or drawer, together with saucepan, old cake tin, enamel mug or other suitable receptacle in which instruments and swabs can be boiled. Dry dressings should be sterilised in moderate oven from 45 to 60 minutes, in a tin lined with clean white rag, whenever possible. The lid should be ajar when baking and closed in taking tin out of oven. Dressing towels or clean rag are required for lining off wound. The nurse must take special care not to let her fingers come in contact with infection. Dressings must always be removed with forceps (afterwards regarded as 'dirty') and wounds should be cleansed with sterilised swabs held in forceps (kept sterile for the remainder of the dressing) so that there is no likelihood of carrying infection by infected hands or instruments from one patient to another. This is particularly important in district nursing in view of the varied types of cases that may be attended at the same time.

Dressings.—The articles required are enumerated and the procedure to be followed described in detail. There is an illustration showing clearly the articles which will be required.

Injection of Insulin.—The routine required in the injection of insulin is described in detail and the method to be employed. The precaution given previously is reiterated. "See that meal is either ready or in preparation."

Douche.—The nurse must bear in mind that the procedure adopted for this treatment depends upon the condition for which it is ordered. Usually it is for one of three reasons—a pessary to be cleansed, vaginal discharges or inflammation accompanied with pain and often a rise of temperature.

1. A pessary needs to be cleansed somewhat rapidly. The douche should therefore be given rapidly, but without undue pressure.

2. Where there is discharge, a quart of lotion should be used and be at a temperature of at least 105°, and given fairly quickly to ensure thorough irrigation.

3. For pain and inflammation six pints of lotion is not too much. It should be given at a temperature of 105°, raised gradually to 115°, and should take 15 to 20 minutes to give, thus introducing heat for as long a period as possible. The patient's hips should be raised upon a pillow, in order to prevent scalding. The surrounding parts should be well oiled before treatment.

Ear Cases.—Always bear in mind, we are told, that treatment to an ear may cause giddiness, and the patient should therefore be seated and a towel tucked round the neck.

Communicable Diseases may form quite a large part of a district nurse's work if she is not undertaking maternity cases. Separate equipment must be provided and the nurse must follow careful technique throughout in order to localise infection.

NURSING OF MATERNITY CASE.

The routine of nursing a maternity case, the bathing of the baby and the technique used in the preparation and application of masks is described.

SUGGESTIONS AS TO HEALTH VISITS.

Considerable space is devoted to suggestions as to health visits, as hospital training does not include very much experience in clerical duties.

We cordially commend this valuable pamphlet.

THE SOCIETY OF REGISTERED MALE NURSES.

We have received from Mr. E. J. Glavin, Secretary of The Society of Registered Male Nurses, a copy of its Constitution, which we have pleasure in publishing in this journal.

The Society of Registered Male Nurses is an organisation founded by male nurses with the object of maintaining and developing the status of the male as a qualified nurse.

The great increase in the numbers of male nurses employed and the high standard of the qualifications for which they are expected to prepare, renders necessary the existence of an organisation through which their educative and professional interests may be expressed and fostered. The Society of Registered Male Nurses is a non-political, social-professional, educative body. Membership is available to all classes of Registered Male Nurses.

AIMS.

The aims and objects of the Society are:—

- (1) To develop and maintain the professional status of male nurses.
- (2) To maintain the traditions and dignity of the profession of nursing.
- (3) To assist its members to keep in touch with modern technique.
- (4) To solve professional difficulties and problems where possible.
- (5) To encourage a high standard of professional conduct.
- (6) To assist male nurses under training to attain a high standard of proficiency and professional status. To bring male nurses of all branches into closer touch with each other for their mutual help and benefit.
- (7) The promotion through Universities of academic courses and degrees in nursing.
- (8) The creation of nursing scholarships and educational facilities.
- (9) The creation of higher grades for males in the nursing services.
- (10) The formation of a Student Male Nurses Section of the Society to be open to men in training as nurses, and to assist and advise prospective male nurses to attain their objects.

The social side of the work of the society is to take the form of debates, interesting lectures, tours of inspection to centres of professional interest and social meetings of various kinds.

The necessity of such an organisation is undeniable in the light of the development of modern nursing methods, but such an organisation, to be of practical use, must embrace the whole of the profession it caters for. Therefore all male nurses who are eligible should become members.

MEMBERSHIP.

The essential qualification for membership is State Registration on some part of the Register of Nurses for England and Wales.

FEES.

The entrance fee is £1 1s. 0d. giving membership for one year and the membership fee is £1 1s. 0d. per annum. Actually £1 1s. 0d. per annum payable in advance. This when worked on a weekly basis is an extremely small contribution.

Application forms for membership can be obtained from: The Secretary, the Society of Registered Male Nurses, 276, Princes Avenue, Palmers Green, N.13.

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