

The more recent form of treatment given in hospital now is as follows: The patient is well washed with soft soap for 10 minutes and then, while still wet, a mixture of equal parts of Benzyl Benzoate, industrial spirit and soft soap is brushed on to the affected parts. It is allowed to dry on; a second application is then given and the patient dried with a towel; the same clothes and bedding are used again. On the following day a hot bath is given, no further application of ointment, but clean clothes and bedding are given and all used clothes, blankets and bedding disinfected by boiling and fumigation.

In some cases a second treatment is given four days after if necessary, and sometimes this is repeated four or five times before the skin is quite clear of the parasite.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

The most interesting item of news at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Conference, held recently in London, was the report of two methods of storing anti-toxins more safely, in a paper by G. E. Shaw and H. G. Hind, read to the Science Section:—

"Anti-toxic serum, which is the blood serum of hyper-immunized animals, is of especial importance in war time owing to the population being exposed to risk from epidemic disease and to the occurrence of injuries necessitating anti-tetanic treatment. Anti-toxin is stored in a sterile condition at about 4° C. in large glass containers. In view of the danger of damage through enemy action bulk storage presents a serious problem owing to the possibility of containers breaking and the supply of electricity to the refrigerator plant being interrupted. A search was made for a method which would eliminate the need for glass containers and make the use of refrigeration unnecessary, but which at the same time would preserve the potency and maintain the sterility of the product. The authors described two methods answering these requirements; each method yields a dry powder which may be stored in any type of container. The potency of the product is maintained, cold-storage accommodation is unnecessary, and the powder is self-sterile."

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Emergency Hospital, Lanchester, Co. Durham.—Miss E. Bowyer, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at the Rush Green Hospital, Romford, and at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Rottenrow, Glasgow. Miss Bowyer has been Deputy-Matron at the Cameron Hospital, West Hartlepool; Matron at the Langley Park Infectious Diseases Hospital; and Matron at the Tanfield Infectious Diseases Hospital. She holds a House-keeping Certificate.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Brockhall Certified Institution for Mental Defectives, Langho, near Blackburn.—Miss G. K. Abraham, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at Southport Infirmary and Bradford Royal Infirmary, and has been Assistant Matron at the School for the Blind, Liverpool; and Ward Sister at the Isolation Hospital, Moss Side, near Lytham.

Institution for Mental Defectives, St. Columb Major, Cornwall.—Miss Dorothy Cross, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the General Hospital, Birmingham, where she received special training in the V.D. Department, the Liverpool Maternity Hospital, and the Chester Mental Hospital. Miss Cross has been Staff Nurse at the General Hospital, Birmingham; Ward Sister at the County Mental Hospital, Chester; Second Assistant Matron at the Momyhill Colony, Birmingham; and Assistant Matron at the Brockhall Institution, Langho, Blackburn. She received Housekeeping Training at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

Members of the British College of Nurses will be sorry to learn that three of their colleagues have, during the past month, been bombed out of house and home in various parts of the country, and reporting to Headquarters all are evidently "standing up to it." They would.

We hope the Local Authorities, and the Lord Mayor's Fund, will do all possible to help them in their difficulties.

Letters from abroad are full of sympathy for our discomforts, and the writers realise with us the day must come when the British people, who are fighting for the emancipation of the world from slavery, will dictate terms to the devil.

In the words of Demosthenes:—

"You cannot, men of Athens, you cannot have done wrongly when you accepted the risks of war for the redemption and the liberties of mankind; I swear it by our forefathers, who bore the brunt of warfare at Marathon, who fought in the sea-fights of Salamis and Artemisium, and by all the brave men who repose in our public sepulchres, buried there by a country that accounted them all to be alike worthy of the same honour."

WHERE ARE THE CHAMPIONS?

From letters received at the Office we gather that the policy of the Ministry of Health on nursing conditions will have very serious results so far as Nursing Schools and Registered Nurses are concerned, and resentment that their professional affairs should have been drastically dealt with without any attempt to consult them—as it is rumoured that the professional members of the Advisory Council had no opportunity of expressing an opinion or offering advice before the Chairwoman informed them of the decisions of the new Minister, and that some of the nurse representatives on the Advisory Council realise the inevitable result of paying semi-trained nurses higher salaries than those received by student and staff nurses in nursing schools attached to hospitals—who, often working in hospitals with auxiliaries and assistant nurses on the staff of the Civil Nursing Reserve, naturally resent the injustice. Moreover, it is found that young women smarting thus wish to break their three years' contracts with hospitals and join the Reserve.

This, of course, would be entirely wrong, and presumably they are ineligible for this Government service.

A member of the College holding a responsible post, writes: "Nurses are getting anything but a fair deal, and the cause needs champions more than ever." Quite so, but of recent years the "champions" have found it increasingly difficult to arouse Registered Nurses to realise the value of their legal status, or their personal responsibility for protecting it. It is always so much easier to let the other woman do the drudgery. This time-worn "champion," however, warns the members of the Nursing Profession as a whole, that unless they unite and define their claims, economic and otherwise, they will find that politicians who may require their services, such as the Ministry of Health, for the moment, may make claims which are unjustifiable. This "champion," therefore, advises that Registered Nurses in sufficient numbers (remember, there are 100,000 on the State Register), shall define their demands, not only for the stability of the profession, but for the stability of the Nurse Training Schools, and the hospitals they serve. They will render the sick and the community in general a service by doing so. Now let the "champions" come forward.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)