

mixed with sufficient sterile sulphanilamide or sulphathiazole powder to produce a final concentration of 2,000 to 5,000 units per gram. The powder can be blown with an insufflator on to raw surfaces or into wounds and the application should be repeated once or twice daily.

(c) *Creams*. Several types of cream have been recommended but the following is satisfactory for most purposes:

The base consists of 30 per cent. lanette wax SX in water. The requisite amounts of lanette wax and water are heated to 40° C. The water is slowly mixed into the wax in a mortar, and stirring is continued until the mixture is almost cold. This usually takes about ten minutes, when a smooth cream is formed. The emulsion is then autoclaved at 20 lb. pressure for 20 minutes. When it has cooled to about 40° C., the correct amount of penicillin, dissolved in a few c.c. of sterile distilled water, is added and thoroughly mixed with a sterile rod or spatula.

The cream is usually applied daily.

III. Further instructions regarding the use of penicillin in the treatment of V.D. are in course of preparation, and will be issued in due course to all V.D. authorities.

#### INCREASING SUPPLIES OF PENICILLIN FOR CIVILIAN PATIENTS.

Increasing supplies of Penicillin are now becoming available for the treatment of civilian patients. It has not yet been possible for it to be placed on the market freely through commercial channels and some degree of control in its use is still essential. Hitherto supplies for civilian patients have been distributed through the University Medical Schools and the Teaching Hospitals, but the Minister of Health is anxious to relieve these bodies as far as possible of the detailed responsibility for control.

It has been decided therefore:

- (a) to increase the number of distributing hospitals or centres;
- (b) to revise the "Recommendations of Conditions to be Treated."

The distributing centres have been chosen, in consultation with the University Medical Schools, from among the hospitals, both voluntary and municipal, which have adequate laboratory facilities and have had experience in the use of Penicillin, regard being had to their geographical position in relation to the main centres of population.

For the present the issue of Penicillin will be free of charge. While detailed returns of the types of cases treated will not be required, records of consumption and of distribution to other hospitals, etc., with receipts for quantities so supplied, should be kept and made available as required for inspection by an officer of the Department.

#### LAUNDRY PROCESS UTILISING SEA-WATER DEVELOPED.

A process which makes use of sea-water for laundry purposes has been developed, and will soon be in use on all Army hospital ships. In initial experiments the United States Army hospital ship, *Wisteria*, was selected for a practical test at sea, and in a 30-day period, 36,101 pieces were successfully laundered with sea-water. This meant a saving of about two-thirds the linen inventory carried by hospital ships, or room for four more bed patients or 10 more walking cases on each ship. The saving effected in fresh water was 4,480 gals. a day, and the reduction in amount of linen used represented a considerable financial saving. The process can be installed in any ship's laundry by cutting in the salt-water pipe. Its use on troopships and island bases is also contemplated.

### THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1, on April 27th, 1945. Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman, presided.

#### Death of Miss S. A. Villiers, S.R.N.

The Chairman reported the death of Miss S. A. Villiers on March 29th. She was a member of the first Council, and served from 1920 to 1927. She served on a number of committees, and gave much help to the Council.

Miss H. Dey represented the Council at the Memorial Service held in London. The Council stood and paid silent tribute to her memory.

#### Business Arising out of the Minutes.

It was reported that Regulations made under Section 6 of the Nurses Act, 1943, were now before both Houses of Parliament, where they would remain for 40 days. If approved, the Regulations will come into force on October 1st, 1945.

#### Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £1,220 for weekly salaries, £30 for postage and £50 for Insurance stamps were allowed.

Estimates for stationery to the value of £513 7s. 11d. for the Assistant Nurses Committee were approved.

It was agreed that the estimate of £954 1s. 4d. for 200 copies of the Supplement to the Register for 1944 be accepted.

#### Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration were: General Register by reciprocity, 5; Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; for Fever Nurses by examination, 9; by reciprocity, 7. Total, 22.

It was agreed that the names of 59 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee, and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

It was agreed that the names of 3,145 nurses who have not paid their retention fees for 1945 be removed from the Register in accordance with the Rules, Part II, Rule 5 (3).

#### List of Nurses.

Applications for admission to the List of Nurses were: General Nurses 50, Male Nurses 1, Nurses for Mental Diseases 3, Sick Children's Nurses 3, Fever Nurses 11. Total 68.

#### Education and Examination.

On the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee, it was agreed that in hospitals approved as Training Schools for Nurses it be a requirement that Student Nurses be medically examined with X-ray examination of chest either shortly before or on admission to training, and that the X-ray examination be repeated at intervals of not more than 12 months, and that this requirement be implemented immediately wherever possible, and in no case later than September 30th, 1945. Further, that it be a recommendation to Training Schools that the Memorandum on the Supervision of Nurses' Health issued by the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London be adopted as a whole.

It was agreed that a minimum age of 18 years be laid down for entry to training for admission to the Register of Nurses and that a Rule embodying this requirement be drawn up for submission to the Minister of Health.

It was agreed that in accordance with Section 14 of the Nurses Act, 1943, the University of London be approved

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