

*Ward maids need watching regarding movement of, or banging against, beds when sweeping, polishing and dusting.*

Sudden noise, jerking or jarring cause much discomfort and irritation.

A *daily* bed bath should be the rule, and pressure points must be very carefully treated at least four-hourly, remembering that in all cases of paralysis, bed-sores are liable to occur.

#### Headaches.

May be relieved by cold compresses or Aspirin. Veganin, if prescribed.

Small children are often irritable and peevish—they need much humouring.

Older patients too, become very irritable, especially at night, when they seem quite unable to sleep. They need very much patience, and all the known aids to induce sleep used by the night staff.

Sedatives are usually prescribed, but very often prove useless.

In a few cases—where there is pharyngeal paralysis—feeding by nasal tube is necessary.

Rectal Salines or Intravenous Drip may also be required; according to the severity of the illness.

After 3-4 weeks, the patient passes from Isolation to General Hospital, there to receive further treatment—*i.e.*, massage, etc.

Mild cases may be discharged home; some perhaps having to attend an Out-Patients' Department of a General Hospital for further supervision.

All these milder types should have at least one month's further rest at home, and a further overhaul from the Orthopædic Surgeon, prior to returning to school. This is considered very necessary, as, in a few instances, an entirely different group of muscles have been found to be affected as late as one month from onset.

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### NEW TREATMENT IN MENTAL DISEASES.

Discussing the treatment of mental disorders, the Board of Control note with satisfaction that some form of physical treatment is used in every mental hospital to supplement psycho-therapy and other methods of approach. The progress of pre-frontal leucotomy is being watched with interest and, states the Thirty-third Annual Report, "some time must necessarily elapse before opinion can crystallise as to the precise place which this form of treatment can fill, but there seems reason to hope that for certain types of case, the operation of pre-frontal leucotomy offers a probability of relief and the possibility of recovery."

Emphasis is laid on the importance of occupational treatment in the care of chronic patients. "For mentally disordered men and women who remain in hospital for long periods, and for whom other forms of treatment have been of no avail, occupational and recreational therapy may be the only means of preventing deterioration of personality with all its attendant unhappiness to relatives, nurses, and to the patients themselves."

The report suggests the need of a special course for training social workers for mental deficiency services, describing the present situation as acute.

### NURSING ECHOES.

The passing of the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.C.V.O., G.B.E., C.B., brings to our memory the days when the battle for the State Registration of Nurses was at its height, when Sir Arthur's powerful opposition ran counter to the Pioneer of the movement—the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick—then indeed did feeling run high, for in her relentless zeal she knew no capitulation!

Years later, Time, the great healer of human differences, brought into being the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, in the founding of which, Sir Arthur, in his inimitable way, paid warm tribute to her organising genius in the formation of this world-wide movement, in which they both played so great a part.

We are sure that the funds of Queen's Institute of District Nursing will be considerably increased through the generosity of two of our Royal Ladies.

We learn that the Princess Elizabeth's marriage register was on view to the public at Westminster Abbey on November 21st, 22nd and 24th, for which a collection was made.

Some beautiful tapestry chair seats donated by Queen Mary are to be sold abroad. The proceeds from both will be given to the Institute.

Sister Tutors holding existing qualifications (*i.e.*, a recognised certificate dated prior to December 31st, 1946, or two years' whole-time experience in the teaching of nursing prior to December 31st, 1939) are reminded that applications for the Sister Tutor Certificate of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales must reach the offices of the Council *not later than December 31st, 1947*. Under the Rules of the Council drawn up in accordance with the Nurses Act, 1943, the Council has no power to accept applications after this date.

The Congress Souvenir issue of the *International Nursing Bulletin* is just to hand, bound in an attractive blue cover, and bearing the portraits of the retired President of the International Council of Nurses, Miss Effie J. Taylor, and of the newly elected President, Miss Gerda Höjer, of Sweden.

We were particularly impressed by the picture showing Miss Lavinia L. Dock and Miss Annie W. Goodrich, pioneer members of the International Council of Nurses, receiving citations from Miss Effie J. Taylor at one of the ceremonies of the Congress.

We are grateful for the homage paid to the memory of our late Editor, Ethel Gordon Fenwick, and for the kind words written of her.

The issue also contains the eleven Resolutions put forward by the Board of Directors, and agreed by the Congress.

There is a picture of Miss Gerda Höjer with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, taken at Hyde Park, when a delegation placed a wreath on the grave of the late President of the U.S.A. Also is reproduced the Florence Nightingale Oration delivered by Miss Lucy Seymer, to the Congress.

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