

6. State briefly what you know about :—
- Koplik's spots ;
  - bronchiectasis ;
  - cirrhosis of the liver ;
  - Schick test ;
  - adrenaline.

#### Surgery and Gynaecology and Surgical and Gynaecological Nursing Treatment.

- What are the complications of a severe burn or scald involving the face and front of the neck ? How may such a patient be treated and nursed ?
- State briefly what you know about :—
  - Colles' fracture ;
  - talipes equino-varus (club-foot) ;
  - genu valgum (knock knee) ;
  - Pott's fracture ;
  - Pott's disease (tuberculosis of the spine).
- What are the causes of severe uterine hæmorrhage ? Describe the treatment and nursing care of any one of the conditions you mention.
- What are the causes of uterine prolapse ? How would a patient be treated and nursed after an operation for this condition ?
- Discuss the nursing care of a patient who has been operated on for the removal of a renal calculus.
- What are the causes, symptoms and treatment of the following :—
  - corneal ulcer ;
  - conjunctivitis ?

#### General Nursing.

- Give an account of the post-operative nursing treatment of a patient who has undergone the operation of partial gastrectomy.
- Describe the nursing care of a patient with a fracture of the cervical region of the spine.
- What are the contra-indications for breast feeding ? What instructions would you give for the feeding of an infant of one month old when breast feeding has been discontinued ?
- Describe the general nursing care of a patient who has been ordered "complete rest."
- What are the duties and responsibilities of the nurse in connection with drugs included in the Dangerous Drugs Act ? Describe how and where you would give an intramuscular injection.
- Enumerate the different types of catheter. State the uses and advantages of each kind you mention and the method of sterilisation.
- What preparation of the patient is necessary before the operation of hæmorrhoidectomy ? Describe the post-operative nursing care of the patient.
- What instruments are required for the operation of dilatation and curettage ? Describe in detail the after care of the patient.

### SHORT FORM OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE.

The Registrar-General announces that as from Monday, December 15th, a new and short form of birth certificate costing sixpence will be available showing only the name and surname, sex, date of birth and (where possible) place of birth. There will be no particulars of parentage or adoption.

#### How to Obtain Short Certificate.

In the case of births registered in England or Wales application can be made to the Superintendent Registrar of the district in which the birth occurred, or to the General Register Office, Somerset House, London, W.C.2. A short certificate can also be obtained from the local Registrar at the time of registration of the birth.

### POVERTY AND THE POOR LAW SWEEP AWAY.

At long last the Poor Law system of England, which dates from before Elizabethan days, has come to an end, under the National Assistance Bill\* (31.10.47).

Previous to the Act of Elizabeth (1601) the community consisted of groups—the manor, the guilds, the family, the monasteries, and each group was responsible for maintaining its impotent poor.

The "settled-poor" in towns were relieved by the guilds ; in the country, by the manor or monasteries.

Progress from serfdom to freedom (although bringing benefits to man as a human being, is also a movement from security as such to insecurity of maintenance) and the disappearance of the charity of the monasteries produced such want and misery that the next development in Poor Law relief was set on foot at the end of the eighteenth century.

Following hard on these reforms came the Industrial Revolution (with its many grave evils), also the explosive growth of population in the towns, accompanied by the needs of the new times. All these problems contributed to the demand for further reform. This betterment came as the first-fruit of the Reform Bill in the Poor Law Act of 1834.

To-day the advancing theories of social responsibility, as well as the rise in the proportion of the aged among our population, have caused the nation to turn again to reform.

It would perhaps not be altogether good for the quality of human mercy if State machinery could wholly mitigate the tragedies of old age or of individuals suddenly bereft of support ; but this Bill, by removing the stigma of the Poor Law and replacing the workhouse by hotel and hostel, where accommodation will be paid for out of relief, shows that the country has moved a very long way, both in thought and action, from the amateur guardian to parish dole.

Furthermore, it embodies the conception, which will hardly be in dispute, that relief of the old, the destitute, the unfortunate, is theirs as of right and not of charity.

The National Assistance Bill is a well drafted, comprehensive measure, but whether its provisions are the best that could be made or are in themselves sufficient, Parliament must during the next few months examine and decide.

The following are the main details of the Bill :—

#### Financial Help.

To those people in need who are not covered by National Insurance or other source, will be relieved as a State and not a local charge, and the only qualification required to obtain relief is *need*. There will be no "household means" test, and the liability of maintenance, which now rests on a wide range of relations, including children for parents, will be reduced to a simple liability of a man to maintain his wife and children, or a woman to maintain her husband and children. Applicants will be dealt with by local officers of the Board.

"Nest Egg" ignored.

Capital up to £50, plus War Savings to the extent of £375, will be ignored.

Cost.

The hotels and hostels will be available to all who need them—women over 60 years and men over 65 years of age—and there will be a standard charge. Those who can pay in full will be expected to do so ; others will according to their resources, but not less than 21s. It is assumed

\* "Summary of the Provisions of the National Assistance Bill" C.m.d. 7248. H. M. Stationery Office, price 3d., post free 4d.

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