

Also continuous Penicillin drops to eyes for one hour. Prophylactic treatment. Silver Nitrate instilled into baby's eyes at birth.

The latest treatment is Sulphonamide given in milk and water, and Penicillin drops into eyes half hourly for 12 hours. Patient is usually cured in 12 hours.

#### *Prevention of Self-Infection.*

Prevention of self-infection and the spread of infection to other persons is very important. Gowns should be worn always by the nurse when treating these cases; the hands should always be washed with great care, and gloves may or may not be worn according to convenience. It is important to remember that Pus in these eyes is under pressure, and the least touch of the lids may result in a stream of Pus being directed into the face of the nurse manipulating them. M.B.M.

### CORNEAL GRAFT.

Miss .....aged 26 years, was admitted with bilateral corneal opacities of old interstitial keratitis, for a left corneal graft. Left vision was finger movements at one foot.

The patient was admitted two days before operation to allow a 48 hour culture to be taken from the conjunctival sac and to become accustomed to the ward routine. Guttæ Penicillin and guttæ proflavine were instilled four hourly into the left eye. Premedication of hypodermic injection of Omnopon gr. 1/3 and Scopolamine 1/150, were given and guttæ pantocaine, adrenalin and homatropine were instilled in the ward, 7 drops at 5 minute intervals, and a 7th nerve block given in theatre.

The graft was taken from the cornea of a patient with a melanoma of choroid, whose eye was excised in a second theatre whilst the cornea to receive the graft was being prepared.

The cornea of the excised eye was moistened by saline and placed on a Tudor Thomas stand. A 4.5 mm. trephine was used to take the graft which was placed over the 4.6 mm. trephine hole which had been taken from the cloudy cornea. The smaller trephine was used for the graft from the donor's cornea to allow for slight swelling as the graft healed.

The four corneal sutures which had already been inserted were tied square-wise across the graft. Guttæ atropine and guttæ Penicillin were instilled. A lid suture was inserted and strapped to the cheek. The patient was nursed sitting up with three pillows and back rest. Veganin tabs.ii and Luminal grs.ii were given for four nights. First dressing was done by the surgeon on the fourth day after operation and the graft looked satisfactory. Guttæ Penicillin and guttæ atropine were instilled and both eyes re-padded.

Three days after the first dressing the patient complained of discomfort and the eye was examined. Two sutures were free in the eye. The remaining two sutures were removed. The anterior chamber had started to reform. Guttæ atropine and guttæ Penicillin were instilled daily.

The patient was discharged 17 days after the operation. The graft had taken well with good transparency. Tension was normal. Vision 6/36. The patient was to instill guttæ atropine 1 per cent. daily and report to the out-patient department in ten days' time.

### NURSING ECHOES.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 147 nurses to be Queen's Nurses; 122 in England, three in Wales, 21 in Scotland and one in Northern Ireland.

On May the 19th His Grace the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Mr. George Mathers, M.P., paid his annual visit to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, accompanied by Mrs. Mathers and members of their suite. After visiting wards in the Royal Infirmary and the Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion they attended the Nurses' prize giving. Her Grace presented the prizes. Both their Graces spoke to the Nurses of the esteem in which the Royal Infirmary was held and they expressed their confidence that, in spite of the forthcoming changes, the spirit of service and high standard of nursing which was traditional in the Royal Infirmary would be maintained.

The principal prize winners were: Affleck medal for Distinction in Nursing, Miss P. S. Hume. Proxime Accessit, Miss M. S. Mill. Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Nurses' League prize for the best all-round previously trained nurse, Miss J. H. Wright. The Annie Warren Gill Memorial Prize for the Theory and Practice of Dietetics, Mrs. Laughlin. Proxime Accessit, Miss M. C. Nicoll.

Miss Edith Dare, Matron of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital and its famed Midwifery Teaching School, for 26 years has retired after 43 years in the nursing profession of which 39 years, less wartime service, was spent at Queen Charlotte's. She was appointed Sister in 1912 and Matron in 1922.

During this time she became quite a national figure. We might even add international as she trained so many nurses for overseas and her visit to the U.S.A. in 1938 was fruitful in many ways, one consequence being the establishment of the first Human Milk Bureau in this country. She was consulted in the novel design of the great modern hospital in Hammersmith to which removal was effected in 1940.

Miss Mary Williams, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., has been appointed Matron. She is at present Second Assistant Matron at the Middlesex Hospital, and was formerly Sister-Superintendent of their Midwifery Dept. (1939-1946) and is an Examiner (Parts I and II C.M.B.).

#### THE PASSING OF MISS G. V. HILLYERS, O.B.E., D.N.

In the very sudden passing of Miss Gladys Verena Hillyers, O.B.E., D.N., on Wednesday, May 19th, the Nursing Profession sustained a sad shock.

At the time of her death she was President of the Royal College of Nursing, and during her distinguished career had held the post of Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital and Superintendent of the Nightingale Training School from 1938 to 1946.

After her retirement from that office Miss Hillyers continued her active interest in the various Nurses' organisations, and her pleasant, happy personality inspired a ready response and affection from those with whom she came in contact, and she will be greatly missed.

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