

"Tulle gras," originally a French preparation, may be prepared in the following way. Curtain net with a mesh of 2 mm. is cut into squares. These are placed in a box of slightly larger size, sometimes with greaseproof paper between each square of material. The box is then filled with the following mixture: soft paraffin 96 gm., balsam of Peru, 2 gm., halibut oil, 2 gm., sufficient to impregnate and cover the material completely after sterilisation.

Phosphorus Burns

Medical officers may be called upon to give treatment for phosphorus burns resulting from accidents met with in dealing with self-igniting phosphorus grenades, etc. It is recommended that these burns should be dealt with on the following lines:

- (a) Immerse the affected part in water, or if sufficient water is not available apply a thick pad soaked in water.
- (b) Particles of phosphorus embedded in the skin should be removed under water by means of gauze held in forceps.
- (c) No oils or greasy dressings should be used.
- (d) Wash with dilute alkaline solution, *e.g.*, sodium bicarbonate or sodium carbonate, 2 drachms to a pint of water.
- (e) Remove all traces of phosphorus by washing with 1 per cent. solution of copper sulphate.
- (f) Remove resultant dark deposit of copper phosphide, and wash with a mild antiseptic, *e.g.*, boric acid.
- (g) Dress as for ordinary burns.

By courtesy of *The Nursing Mirror*

THE MAKING OF SYNTHETIC TULLE GRAS

The making of synthetic tulle gras, used extensively for burns, is here described in detail by Sister P. L. N. WALKER, Maxillo Facial Unit, Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital, East Grinstead.

Buy a roll of white curtain net of moderately fine mesh (about 2 mm.). This is obtainable at any draper's, the cost varying from 11½d. to 1s. 6d. per yard.

Cut it into suitable lengths, about 3 yards in each length, and thoroughly wash it to remove the dressing.

Fold it smoothly and hang to dry. Do not let it become pulled out of shape as this makes it more difficult to cut. Ironing makes it easier to cut.

Get a collection of tin boxes of various sizes. Small rusk tins and sweet tins do well, about 3 inches by 6 inches being the most popular size for ward use, but in special cases even bigger sizes may be used.

The tins, unless exceptionally good ones, will need soldering before use, as the continual sterilising will make them leak at the joints.

Cut the muslin into the exact size of each tin and place in smoothly. If it is lumpy and rough it does not make a good dressing. Small odd pieces may go into little tins and can be used

up for nose and eye dressings. Fill the tins two-thirds full with the muslin. In the original preparation, grease-proof paper was placed between each piece of material, but this has been dispensed with as it takes much time and is not really necessary. The tins are then ready for the addition of the ointment.

The synthetic tulle gras mixture is as follows:—

98 parts Soft Vaseline
1 part Balsam of Peru
1 part Halibut Oil.

This is then well stirred together. Six or seven pounds can be dispensed in large tins ready for spreading.

Take a spatula and put a thick layer in each tin. It is easier to do this when the grease is moderately warm. It is difficult to estimate how much is needed to saturate the net, but an excess can be poured off after sterilising.

Place the tins on trays in the dressing steriliser. The tulle gras can be sterilised at 15 to 20 lbs. pressure for 15 minutes, or longer. It also stands higher pressure quite well.

The next part of the process requires particular attention. The gas or steam must be turned off and the boxes allowed to cool in the closed steriliser. Do not on any account allow the pressure to fall suddenly or the grease will bubble and overflow from the tins.

If the tulle gras is left in the steriliser for about an hour, or however long the pressure takes to fall to normal, the door can be opened and the dressings removed.

If there is too much grease, pour off the excess until the dressing is just covered. Put the lids on the tins and allow them to cool. They can then be labelled, sealed with strapping, and stored.

Care must be taken to avoid waste, as the process can be expensive. Care must also be taken not to spill the hot grease on one's hands, as it burns most unpleasantly.

By courtesy of *The Nursing Mirror*

TREATING THE RIGHT CASUALTY FIRST

By Mr. A. P. BERTWISTLE, F.R.C.S., who outlines the treatment and gives the order of priority he would adopt in Incident No. 1

Casualties which had to be treated

1. A woman, lying with her head on the pavement in a pool of blood. She is conscious, but remembers nothing of her accident. The pupils of her eyes are normal in their reactions.
2. A man lying with his leg immobile and useless. Inspection reveals a sharp piece of bone projecting under the skin over the shin.
3. A man with abrasions under the chin, bleeding from the mouth, with several broken teeth. He is unable to speak clearly.
4. A man with broken glass in the wrist and smart arterial hæmorrhage.