

cast her spell. She is 'the angel in the street,' whose work is healing of all kinds; nor does she deem her work complete if she ease not sad, troubled minds. *The District Nurse!* She does so much just by her tender human touch.

WILHELMINA STITCH.

A woman made a sacrifice of her life to tend the poor, and her beauty was increased tenfold.

ELIZABETH GIBSON.

ERGOMETRINE

The isolation of the new ergot alkaloid, Ergometrine, recently described by Dudley and Moir was followed by the commercial issue of the drug by Burroughs Wellcome & Co., London England, within the short space of three weeks from the first announcement of the discovery—(*British Medical Journal*, April 6, 1935).

The following preparations of the alkaloid are issued for therapeutic use:—

- 'Tabloid' Ergometrine, 0.5 mgm. for oral administration,
- 'Wellcome' Solution of Ergometrine, 0.5 mgm. in 2.5 cc. for oral administration,
- 'Tabloid' Hypodermic Ergometrine, 0.25 mgm. for intramuscular injection,
- 'Pypoloid' Ergometrine, 0.25 mgm. in 1 cc. for intramuscular injection,
- 'Tabloid' Hypodermic Ergometrine, 0.05 mgm. for intravenous administration,
- 'Hypoloid' Ergometrine 0.05 mgm. in 1 cc. for intravenous administration.

The alkaloid used in these preparations is of the high degree of purity associated with the firm's products and crystallises readily from a number of solvents as described in Dr. Dudley's later communication—(*British Medical Journal*, April 13). Ergometrine is characterised by the rapidity with which it causes contraction of the uterus and is used clinically for this effect during the puerperium.

Given orally, in a dose of 0.5 mgm. to 1 mgm., Ergometrine produces contraction after an interval of $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 minutes, the contractions being identical in mode of onset and general character with those produced by active liquid extracts of ergot. It may also be given by intramuscular injection, in a dose of 0.25 mgm. to 0.5 mgm., which produces strong uterine action in $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. Intravenously, in a dose of 0.05 mgm. a strong response follows in 110 seconds and in a dose of 0.1 mgm. in 65 seconds.

Ergometrine has a pronounced and more rapid action in a dosage smaller than that required in the case of ergotoxine. It is remarkably free from side effects.

Ergometrine is of particular value for routine oral administration after parturition. Ergometrine, for its immediate action followed by ergotoxine ethanesulphonate for its prolonged effects, would appear to be ideal for use during the puerperium.

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Bangalore	672	Miss A. Mathew, Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.	Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.
"	699	Miss Thangamma Joseph, Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.	Do.
"	744	Miss Hepzibah Stephen, Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.	Do.
"	745	Miss Rose Enoch, Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.	Do.
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"	748	Miss Mary Joy, Zenana Mission Tuberculosis Hospital, Bangalore.	Do.
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Bombay	750	Miss E. E. Connolly, Mission Hospital, Miraj, S. M. C.	Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, Penna., U.S.A.
"	751	Miss Margaret Foster, Canada Hospital, Nasik.	St. Thomas's Hospital, London; Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.
Bangalore	752	Sister Victoria, C. S. M. V., St. Mary's Home, Kensington Road, Bangalore.	Guy's Hospital, London.
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U.P.	MU59	Miss J. M. Pigott, Z. B. M. M., Bulandshahr, U. P.	Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Marylebone Road, London.

Some hints to take notice of when applying for concession forms.

1. Read up notes on page 139 in T.N.A.I. Handbook.
2. Obtain a concession order from your hospital if you can.
3. Write for your concession order two weeks before your journey if possible.
4. Use the form given below.
5. Write in block capitals.
6. Send to your District Secretary, see page iii for addresses. **Mark your envelope T. N. A. I., or address your letter to the District Secretary as such, to distinguish from private correspondence. Use a 1 anna 3 pie stamp.**
7. Enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for reply and please do not forget your registered number.

To the { General District } Secretary, T.N.A.I.....

As a nurse in *bona fide* practice I have to travel on duty leave as shown below and shall be grateful if you will please issue me concession forms for the journey.

From Station on the Railway
to Station on the Railway

(If through tickets for the whole journey cannot be obtained, give details of each stage for which a fresh ticket is needed.)

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I enclose a stamped and addressed envelope for reply.

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