



THE MIDWIVES' UNION SECTION.

Hon. Secretary :—Miss D. CHADWICK, S.R.N.,
Government Hospital for Women and Children,
Igmore, Madras.

Members are asked to report any helpful notes
of cases, and send articles for this section to the
Secretary.

An Abnormal Pregnancy

By MRS. A. CARROLL,

Nursing Superintendent, Victoria Zanjana Hospital, Delhi.



'THE SEVEN-YEAR OLD GIRL-MOTHER'

A girl aged seven years gave birth to a full term female child in the Victoria Znanana Hospital, Delhi, on the 7th of June 1932. She was brought to the hospital in her 7th month of pregnancy and was kept under supervision as an ante-natal case for two months. When labour started, caesarian section had to be performed, as the head of the foetus would not enter the pelvis, even after a trial of labour. The baby weighed 4 lbs. 3 ozs. at birth and is nursed by the girl mother without supplementary feeds. At 2 months the weight of the baby is 6 lbs. 8 ozs. The age of the patient has been verified by the Health Officer of Delhi, from the municipal registers, and the findings are corroborated by the dates given by the father of the patient. There is an elder brother who is only 9 years of age and looks smaller than the girl mother, this most probably is due to the development which has taken place in the girl owing to pregnancy. Both mother and child are still in hospital and doing well.

MRS. A. CARL,
Nursing Superintendent.

THE STUDENT NURSES' ASSOCIATION SECTION.

Rainy Hospital,
Madras,
19th September, 1932.

Dear Student Nurses,

I had the great pleasure on Friday of being present at a gathering of the T.N.A.I. and S.N.A. at Vellore Medical School Hospital. A variety of scenes including, 'The Marriage of Queen Esther', 'A Roadside Dispensary' and 'A Village Wedding' were acted by the nurses, who proved the popularity of our red Journal which made its appearance in two of the scenes—an excellent substitute for a trumpet in the village band!

We forgot to collect money that night for the 'Delegates' Fund'. I don't know why—but I do know that if all our S.N.A. units can show as much talent as this one we shall have no difficulty at all about the money.

We should like to hear from other units about their meetings. I am certain that much is being done of which we do not hear.

Will somebody please write for next month?

You will all welcome the new unit at Ahmednagar which has made such an excellent start.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

J. ROBSON.

Extract from letter written by Miss Bjornstad.

Formation of a New Student Nurses' Unit, Ahmednagar

We started by calling together the whole nursing staff for an evening gathering.

I presented for them this Union of nurses all over the world like a tremendous white army; then the associations in each country; then the trained staff in each hospital and lastly the student nurses who will form the great world army of the future.

The laws were read and accepted and we divided all the members into groups of committees.

One group of three is to edit ('a lark') hand-written paper called *The Lark*.

Fourteen days later we had the first official meeting with a social gathering.

The first number of *The Lark* appeared and was received with loud applause.

Tea was served with cakes, sweets and fruits as well as cold drinks. The student nurses entertained with acting a little play, and afterwards were different kinds of games.

I trust we will be able to carry on and that our unit will grow and thrive, and help to lift the standard of nursing to a higher level in India.

HELEN BJORNSTAD

T. N. A. I. ANNUAL CONFERENCE—November 14th to 18th.

To be held at the Lady Hardinge Medical College Hospital, New Delhi.

Tentative Programme

November 14th.

- 1 p.m. T.N.A.I. Executive Meeting, St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi.
- 4 p.m. Informal gathering of Delegates at St. Stephen's Hospital.
Tea, Registration, Distribution of Badges, Sale of Work,
Secretary will receive fees (Proceeds for fund to send an
Indian Delegate to I.C.N. Conference.)
View: St. Stephen's Hospital.

November 15th.

- 9.30 a.m. Devotional Service in St. James' Church, Kashmere Gate.
- 11.00 a.m. Official Opening of Conference, Lady Hardinge Medical
College Hospital by Her Excellency The Countess of
Willingdon, C.I., C.B.E.
Photograph.
Morning business session:
President's Address, Reading of Reports.

- 3.00 p.m. Visit the Lady Hardinge Medical College Hospital.
 6.00 p.m. Paper by Dr. C. L. Houlton on Ante-natal Work followed by discussion.

November 16th.

- 10.00 a.m. Morning Session :
 Business.
 Paper by Miss Bell, Tilaunia, on Tuberculosis.
 2.00 p.m. Meeting of Student Nurses' Executive Committee.
 3.00 p.m. Sightseeing (arranged programme.)
 6.00 p.m. Paper on Psychology of Nursing. Discussion.

November 17th.

- 8.30 a.m. Visit to Fort Jumma Musjid.
 10.00 a.m. Morning session :
 Discussion on Registration and supervision of dais to be opened by Miss Rawson, Principal of Delhi Health School.
 2.00 p.m. Annual Meeting of Student Nurses' Association.
 3.00 p.m. Sightseeing (arranged programme.)
 6.00 p.m. Entertainment by Nurses of St. Stephen's Hospital.

November 18th.

- 10.00 a.m. Conference Session :
 Election of Officers.
 Paper on European Diet in Indian Hospitals. By Dr. Menkel.
 Indian Diet in our Indian Hospitals. By Miss Wilkinson.
 Both papers open to discussion after second paper is read.
 3.00 p.m. T.N.A.I. Executive Committee.
 6.00 p.m. Closing Session.

As we go to press we learn of two other items which will be fitted into the programme. Their Excellencies the Governor-General, and Viscountess Willingdon will be pleased to allow the delegates to view Viceregal Lodge and gardens; and Dr. R. Young will lecture and show her film on Osteomalacia.

FRAGMENTS

The 100th anniversary of the birth of Louisa May Alcott, American Civil War Nurse, and author of the well known book *Little Women*, is being celebrated this year.

My Daughter Nurse

How more mature than I, my daughter nurse,
 You stand in your prim graduation gown,
 Schooled in the vital span we all traverse
 Only two foreheads eased of ennui's frown
 Have I seen sculptured: only a twilight thought,
 For me, the mystery of birth; but you
 Have felt mild flesh to statuary wrought,
 Have seen a score of actors take Life's cue.

This multi-scenic play for you is staged
 In therapeutic terms and operation;
 But having indexed knowledge, as I aged,
 My shifts are done in daily contemplations;
 I sit back having conned my fameless rôle,
 And watch you construe body into Soul.

SONIA KELTS.

Psittacosis or parrot fever has been manifesting itself both in isolated and epidemic forms of late in parts of America. It is an acute disease characterized by sudden onset of fever, headache, exhaustion and severe respiratory symptoms. It is highly infectious and contagious.

It is not only transferred from bird to human, but also from person to person.

Pulmonary symptoms usually appear about the third day and spread rapidly. The sputum is not rusty, as in pneumonia but may be streaked with blood which usually comes from the nose. Temperature ranges from 102 to 106.

•Canaries have been found to transmit the disease, as well as parrots.

'I am not so sure that we have an over-supply of nurses. If an epidemic should come I do not believe we should have enough nurses.'
 (Dr. McEachern at American Nurses' Convention.)

Impetigo neonatorum is a contagious skin infection of the new born, and may be present at birth. The common type comes usually in the form of a bleb, which later may become white or yellowish. On rupture, the base is found injected, surrounded by deeper periphery. The bleb is usually discreet and at first single, which if neglected quickly spreads.

Prophylactic treatment.—Immediately after birth the infant is thoroughly examined, the child is then washed with neutral soap and water and dried. This is the only bath given during its stay in hospital. Ung. hydrarg. ammoniatum 5 per cent is then rubbed in thoroughly to the entire skin surface, particular attention being given to the groin, axilla and skin folds. Olive oil only is used for cleansing purposes. All infants are re-anointed on the 7th day.

Active treatment.—All blebs are opened and painted with 5 per cent gentian violet in 50 per cent alcohol or 2 per cent silver nitrate.

—Dr. F. G. McGuinness, in *W. G. H. Nurses Alumnae Jour.*

Snakes do not jump, but are capable of springing forward as far as one-half or two-thirds of their length, possibly a little more. For this reason victims of snake bites are rarely struck above the knee. There is however, an exception to this rule in the case of the King Cobra which is capable of rising to one-third of its full length of eighteen feet.