

own importance, and this interests mostly companies and employers. We all know the amount of responsibility that falls upon them under the law providing for indemnity to be given to employees in these cases. If, by this method, it were possible to diminish the amount of incapacity resulting from the accident, I think it would save them certainly large amounts of money, and it would, at the same time, prevent the employee from remaining a lame man for the rest of his life.

I would like to see all manufacturers, and even the fire brigades, knowing this fact, and knowing also that the best thing they can do for any one of their employees, who should have the misfortune of having one of these terrible accidents, would be to have on hand a bottle of tincture of iodine, ready to be used as the first, the best of all emergency treatments, that could be applied to the case.

Only a few weeks ago a case was brought to the hospital—a man, a labourer, burnt in the face, neck and head by an explosion of gasoline. I do not know whether it was from the fact that they had heard of the treatment that they did it; but they did it, at any rate. The patient sent to the hospital had only to be continuously treated along the same lines, and following the rules. In two weeks he was in a condition to resume his work.

Whether it be for a small or a large burn, I insist that I consider this treatment to be the best. About two months ago a child of 12 years old was brought to me, as a private patient, after a burn covering certainly over half the surface of his body. I saw him in hospital only the next day after the burn, and some ointment (I do not know what kind) had already been used on it. Nevertheless, I ordered the iodine treatment. The poor

little thing went on as well as possible for seven or eight days; the only pain endured was the one at the moment of the applications. Unfortunately, I had the parents against my treatment, and I was obliged to submit to their desire. After two or three days the parents realised what I had told them: that the dressings were nearly as painful as the iodine dressing, but that these dressings were not quieting the pain of the burn. The temperature started going higher; the general condition of patient got worse and worse every day; and on the eleventh day the final result that I was expecting came, and the poor boy died.

Although at least half of the surface of the body was burnt, I feel convinced that if I could have kept on with the iodine treatment I would have saved his life. But one fact remains, with all its importance: urine analysis, and taking the quantity of urine, was done every day during the applications, and I could not notice any clinical symptoms of kidney alterations, neither by the clinical symptoms nor by the laboratory reports.

Since the antiseptic value of iodine has been discovered and admitted by the profession in general, this chemical product has rendered us all sorts of service. We use it for disinfecting the skin before operations; we use it for disinfecting some surgical wounds; we treat the wounds with it, and everybody admits that its value is of the utmost importance. This is another application in which I sincerely believe it is going to prove again that it is the most important, the most powerful, and the most harmless of all antiseptics.—“Canadian Medical Association Journal.”

[Note.—We should like some notes re this treatment from nurses who may have seen it used.]

Legal Registration of Nurses Bill

In the annual report of the Director-General of Public Health, New South Wales, for year 1919, we read:—

“The legal registration of nurses and midwives is another urgent matter. A

Bill prepared some years ago has not yet been submitted to Parliament, but the opening of maternity hospitals by the State makes it imperative that the nursing profession should be given a legal status.”