Publishers' Department

Cough of Phthisis.—In the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis the mitigation of cough is frequently of prime importance, since the repeated effort to expel accumulations of perverted secretions of suppurative materials is often of such degree that pleuritic pains are intensified and the patient is reduced to a state of extreme weakness. Furthermore, the interruption of sleep caused by frequent acts of coughing invariably brings about a marked depression of the vital forces.

The systematic administration of an agent which exerts a sedative influence upon the respiratory tract, modifies the pulmonary accumulations and invigorates the expulsive act is asually expedient, for the reason that the comfort and general well-being of the patient is substantially improved by such a course. It is, however, judicious to avoid the administration of any drug which is capable of producing by-effects that are detrimental, in any way, to the welfare of the patient. It is particularly important that the use of drugs which cause digestive disturbances, constipation or addictions should be eschewed, for such drugs always interfere to a very considerable extent with reparative processes.

Glyco-Heroin (Smith) is singularly serviceable in the treatment of cough of phthisis, since, while possessing extraordinary coughameliorating, dyspnea-relieving, repair-promoting, scdative and expectorant properties, it is completely incapable of producing the slightest untoward effects.

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