

salad oil only is needed to keep the ulcers at rest and to remove irritating substances. He gives it as an injection by the bowel, a large breakfast cupful (from a quarter of a pint to half a pint) being used for the first four or five days at intervals of from twelve to twenty-four hours. Its benefits, he says, are distinct from the first; the temperature almost always falls 1° F., and the patient, instead of being irritable and restless, becomes calm and composed. After the fifth day it may be given every second day, or left off entirely if the patient is having natural motions at least every twenty-four hours, and if the temperature is steadily falling. There is, however, a certain proportion of cases in which the patients do not respond to injections; nothing comes away and the bowel is apparently empty, but it is in these very cases that the accumulation is worst. Suddenly the temperature runs up and the patient is seriously ill. Now it is the very virulence of the accumulation which, paralyzing the gut, prevents its coming away. The remedy, says the author, is simple. Give salad oil by the mouth, a large breakfast cupful at a time; there is no need to be frightened, no harm will result, but the bowels will almost certainly respond, and injections are now able to manage the rest. If the first dose is without effect, repeat after twelve hours.

Salad oil in typhoid fever, is, he thinks, a perfect boon to the general practitioner. He can leave his patient, fearing neither high temperature, delirium, insomnia, heart failure, nor tympanites. He states that he has never used the wet pack or other appliances for lowering the temperature (except sponging with vinegar and lukewarm water) and that he has never used any of the vaunted intestinal antiseptics, never having had a high temperature or other complications, which did not respond to salad oil, except in two cases. The first was that of a boy with hæmorrhage,

whose father and mother were always drunk and neglected him disgracefully. The second was a case of mitral stenosis which came under his care in a late stage of the disease. The patients in both cases ultimately recovered.

The author states that there seems to be no danger in conscientiously palpating and percussing the abdomen during the first week of the disease; he thinks it is a valuable aid in estimating the disappearance of accumulations, although at present, he says, the temperature and general well-being of the patient are his usual guides.

Mr. Owen adds that salad oil, a pint by the mouth and half a pint per rectum, has given him the most gratifying results in two cases of typhilitis.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

IS THE APOTHECARY SHOP DOOMED?

Industrial evolution, as well as professional evolution, is constantly changing the relation of individuals to each other. The apothecary shop was originally the medicine-room of the physician. Galen himself is supposed to have used the word, deriving it from the Greek *apotheka*, meaning a store or magazine. It was not until the time of Henry VIII. that apothecaries were recognized as distinct from the medical doctors. They were incorporated in 1606 together with the grocers, but later on had a separate organization, and since then have become more and more specialized. To-day another change seems to be taking place among them. The manufacturing pharmacist with his large factories and hundreds of workmen, is assuming here and there the duties of the dispensing apothecary.

On the one side the physician has his medicines ready made; his pills, tablets, coal-tar combinations, organic compounds, elixirs, etc., are used as