

If there is obstinate constipation, leave out the lime water and add a few grains of sodium bicarbonate, or two or three grains of sodium phosphate to each feeding. Patent foods are all deficient in fats. They are all useless as a food, but are useful to bridge over a difficulty for a month or two. Continued use of them will sometimes produce "Infantile Scurvy." Many such cases have been reported in the United States during the past two or three years, and I myself, have seen one such case. In this case the gums were spongy, and bled easily near the teeth; the body was covered by ecchymotic spots; there was hyperaesthesia; the joints were swollen and tender, and all the symptoms of malnutrition. This case was due to long continued use of patent foods, and might readily have been mistaken for rheumatism. Treatment consisted of a properly prepared milk food, and the administration of orange juice. The child made a complete recovery.

One of the most frequent causes of death in early infancy is from simply atrophy, or the slow wasting, termed marasmus. It arises in both hand-fed and breast-fed infants, being in either case due to insufficient nourishment. It also often follows a long diarrhoea. You are all familiar with the symptoms of this disorder. The child looks old, skin wrinkled, dry and harsh, extremities cold, and hands claw-like, face pinched, and eyes shrunk, abdomen prominent, and great prostration. When the child is below the eighth month, the prognosis is bad, over this, better.

Treatment.—Stimulants and pre-digested food for a time, then give a modified milk, low in fat and the proteids, and strong in sugar. When the movements become acid, lower the sugar. Cod liver oil by inunction is often of great service.

A very important and common nutritive disorder is that known as "Malnutrition." Usually occurs in children over two years and up to the sixth and eighth year. Inherited tendencies have much to do as an etiological factor, but a more frequent and important cause is imperfect hygiene. Sleeping and living in hot, poorly ventilated rooms, improper food, irregularity in the hours of sleep, children who are up at all hours, and are allowed to have frequent night parties that stimulate and excite the nervous system.

Symptoms.—Anæmia, sleep badly, easily aroused, dream much, and as a result are cross and peevish during the day, miserable appetites, bowels disturbed; diarrhoea in the morning; a movement after meals, passes a great deal of mucus, mothers say they have worms, extremely