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## Original Articles

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### NOTES ON THE TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER.\*

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The treatment of typhoid fever is divided into medicinal, dietetic and hygienic. I am inclined to think the first might almost be eliminated except in cases when complications arise. Still a certain amount of medicinal treatment is useful during the initiatory stages, and when first called I generally give 1-10th of a grain of calomel every hour until one grain is taken, followed by small doses of mag. sulph. or enemata, and repeat this once or twice during the first week. After this I give no more calomel, but keep the bowels well open by enemata, as I think this serves to eliminate the poison, which is of great importance. If diarrhea sets in, bismuth and opium will generally check it. Should hemorrhage occur, I have found acetate of lead, tannin and opium very useful. Should there be much tympanites, a few drops of turpentine in emulsion is beneficial; but tympanites can be avoided to a great extent by proper diet. When the heart becomes weak 1-30th of a grain of strychnine every three or four hours is demanded, and I think in most cases when the fever continues a long time this is necessary. This, I think, is about all the medicinal treatment required. Some practitioners have great faith in antiseptics, but for my part I do not think they are of much value.

Now we come to feeding, and this, to me, is perhaps the most important part of the treatment. The profession as a rule follow the routine practice of giving from one to two quarts of milk daily, and I was no exception in this respect. While for some

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\* Read at the Canadian Medical Association, August 28-31st, 1901.