

The newly-born are usually kept too warm. It is rarely necessary to resort to the theory of reflex action to account for a fever.

Lithiasis, teething, intestinal worms, irritation of the skin, and others—all these have been placed in the etiology of fevers, but as our knowledge of the infectious diseases extend these causes are relegated to the rear.—*Medical Fortnightly*.

THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER.

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The ingenuity of the human mind has evolved many methods of treatment for typhoid fever and some so-called specimens have been introduced, but, with a few exceptions, these latter innovations have lapsed into innocuous desuetude.

There seems to be a growing tendency on the part of many clinicians and hospital staff-physicians to question the reliability of any method of treatment except by means of hydrotherapy, but the fact remains that a vast majority use drug antipyretics and intestinal antiseptics in the treatment of typhoid fever. In this connection it may not be improper to quote a paragraph from Dr. John V. Shoemaker, who says in his *Treatise on Materia Medica and Therapeutics* in reference to a well-recognized intestinal antiseptic: "Betanaphthol is administered chiefly as a means of securing antiseptis. Being almost insoluble, it is one of the best agents at our command for disinfection of the alimentary tract. In typhoid fever it mitigates the severity of the disease and reduces the rate of mortality. These results, announced by Professor Buchard, have been amply confirmed by the writer and numerous observers."

During the last year I have treated cases of undoubted typhoid fever of average severity; in each instance some effort was made at intestinal antiseptis. By this I do not mean that the typhoid bacilli were absolutely destroyed by a germicidal action of the remedies used, but that some noticeable beneficial effects were produced I feel certain. It is entirely possible to render the foul and offensive typhoid stools free from putrefactive odours, and the tympanites, ordinarily a distressing symptom, may be eliminated.

It may be futile to address antiseptic remedies to the bacillus of Eberth, but remedies properly selected will strengthen the wall of the bowel and prevent sloughing up