

cation the force that is instrumental in accomplishing cures in the hands of Christian Scientists, mental healers, osteopaths, etc. I did not see enough of this method to enable me to come to a conclusion as to how much there is in it. I saw sufficient, however, to make one think that an investigation of the subject is well worthy the attention of the general practitioner.

One old gentleman, who was attending the clinics, confided to me that he had come to Dr. Parkyn for treatment for a broken-down nervous system, due to the strain and anxiety of keeping a store. Besides taking the treatment, he was attending the clinics to learn the business, and had about come to the conclusion that when he was cured he would not go back to the nerve-destroying occupation of selling dry goods and groceries, but would start up a sanitarium for the treatment of the sick. If he were placed for twenty-four hours in the position of the general practitioner, where he would be liable to be called upon to treat anything from a tooth-ache to a placenta praevia, I am inclined to think that he would come to the conclusion that there are a good many conditions where suggestion alone would not work, and that keeping store is not the only trying occupation on the nerves.

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## THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS.\*

BY E. T. SNYDER, M.D., BRUSSELS, ONT.

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I desire to bring forward for discussion a few questions which relate to the chronic renal diseases, and especially the dietetic treatment of chronic contracted kidneys.

Since the year 1890, when the congress in Germany occupied itself with this theme under the head of Senator and Ziemssen, no essentially new points of view have been suggested.

There has grown up in the meantime in practice a certain plan, according to which the regulations concerning diet are accustomed to be made. This, roughly outlined, is as follows: A moderately rich allowance of albuminous foods, giving the preference to the vegetable albumens, and to the albuminous constituents of milk; a liberal supply of fresh and cooked fruits, and simple and unirritating preparations of vegetable and farinaceous foods in the greatest variety possible.

The entire amount of the fats and carbo-hydrates should depend upon the existing state of the patient's nutrition. In many cases they must be severely restricted; in others liberally allowed.

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\* Read at Huron Medical Association, Stratford, July 10th.