

In addition to the above treatment, should excessive secretion continue, and the infant suffer from abundant serous discharges, more powerful astringents may be given, such as aromatic sulphuric acid, nitrate of silver, or acetate of lead. Astringents should also be used in enemata.

In the way of prevention, the following precautions are of manifest value :—

1. The careful regulation of the feeding of infants, especially such as are bottle-fed, conserving their powers of digestion as far as possible by regularity in the amount and hours of feeding. Infants and children should not be given milk to assuage thirst, but should have pure water, either filtered or boiled, offered to them freely between their hours of feeding. Parents should be taught to consider milk as a food only to be given at meal hours, not as a drink to be gulped down rapidly on an exhausted stomach.

2. The value of careful general hygiene cannot be over-estimated.

3. As milk must necessarily form the greater part of an infant's food up to the age of two years, the following rules laid down by Prof. Vaughan should receive attention : Cows should be healthy ; the milk of any animal indisposed should not be mixed with that from perfectly healthy animals. They should be fed with wholesome food, and receive pure water to drink. They should not be heated or worried, and their udders should be washed before milking. The milk should be at once *thoroughly* cooled, and should be kept at a temperature not exceeding 60° in a thoroughly aired place which has no connection with any drain or cesspool. The only vessels in which milk should be kept are tin, glass, and porcelain.

4. But to those living in cities it is impossible to be sure that the above instructions are absolutely carried out ; hence it is important that all milk used for infants should be sterilised. This can be effected by having the milk carefully brought to the boiling point as soon as it is received, and then cooled rapidly in closely covered vessels. If necessary this may be done twice daily. In a very interesting article (*Amer. Jour. Med. Science*,