

and salts, and bad handling by the ptomaines. The cow has an abnormally high temperature, her organs of generation are in unnatural activity, and she is made a machine for producing milk. It is no wonder, then, that she is, as a rule, an unhealthy animal. This delicate animal is rarely, owing to the low price of milk, fed properly; and the same cause compels the farmer to utilize every drop of milk, be the cow sick or well. Good food is the prime essential for producing good milk.

Fifth. Milk is affected by its surroundings in the cow house; and the method of getting rid of the odor by saltpetre cannot be too severely censured, for the addition of the nitre united with the glycerides may produce poisons approximating to tyrotoxin. No chemical substance should ever be added. Milk should not be conveyed a long distance, for travel deteriorates milk. Light, like heat, hastens decomposition; therefore, glass bottles should not be used.

The milk ought not to be given to the infant warm, for then it coagulates like too-old milk. Sterilized milk may be employed if we abandon all hope of improving the quality of milk.

To remedy these evils, we should have a better cow; one not closely inbred, well fed with good, sound food, and well attended to. The cheapness of the milk is the reason why we have not better milk; and the inferior milk suggests the use of substitutes. If the price of the latter were added to the price of such milk, the extra money would enable the farmer to buy better cows and better food, and improve the quality of his products. This he ought to be compelled to do. Let us not recommend patent baby foods, but good, high-priced milk, and then, if any trouble arises, we can lay the blame on the milkman. Dairies for supply of infants' food should be under strict sanitary supervision.

Prepared foods of all kinds, even if only sterilized milk, always, take a low place as nourishment compared with fresh milk. Cows may be so fed as to increase the fat but not the albuminoids. The albuminoids change very quickly when the cattle are diseased.

## DONT'S IN ANTISEPTIC SURGERY.

Dr. Ap. Morgan Vance, of Louisville, in a paper read before the McDowell Medical Society, called attention by the following series of *dont's* to the importance of the little things in antiseptic surgery:

*Don't* fail, when possible, to have a general bath before doing a major operation.

*Don't* do any operation with suspicious hands; hot water, soap, nail brush, and penknife should be carefully used by the principal and assistants before any operation. It is best to cut the nails very short, so there will be no place for germs to lodge.

*Don't*, just before or during an operation, put your fingers about your nose, eyes, or ears, or use your handkerchief, or shake hands with anyone. It is better to offend a visitor than to run the risk of infection.

*Don't* pick up, or allow your assistants to touch, any instrument, sponge or suture that has fallen upon the floor during the operation.

*Don't* bite off the end of a suture that it may the more readily be threaded.

*Don't* put your knife, or other instrument, in your mouth, or behind your ear, preparatory to its use.

*Don't* fail to detail some one to wipe your face during a long and laborious operation.

*Don't* cough or sneeze over the operative field; consequently the use of tobacco or the presence of a cuspidor should be forbidden in the operating room.

*Don't* fail, when possible, to have the patient bathed, and clothing changed, before an operation. When this is not possible, thoroughly cleanse the field, and never make or dress a wound where the surrounding parts have not been shaved thoroughly.

*Don't* allow any visitor to handle the field of operation, after the patient is prepared unless he is aseptic.

*Don't* allow visitors who are doubtful, i. e., who are attending patients with gangrene, erysipelas, or puerperal fever etc., unless they have taken all precautions.

*Don't* fail to have the field surrounded by warm sublimated towels.—*Times and Register*.