

(We have not settled exactly how low the temperature does fall as a result of chloretone, as in the experiments the thermometer used did not register below 27.4 degrees C.)

Many drugs produce a fall in the normal temperature. Thus the administration of chloroform in production of ordinary anesthesia produces a fall of .5 C. in man. If chloroform is slowly administered to animals for a long period, then the temperature may be lowered to 30 degrees C., and this without anesthesia<sup>3</sup>. In chloral poisoning it may fall to 33 degrees C., and lastly, Kembel states that in alcoholic poisoning the temperature per rectum may reach the low point of 24 degrees C. if the poisoned individual is lying out in the cold. The records in our experiments were made in a room at about 55 to 65 degrees Fahr.

To summarize our results:

1. Chloretone would seem, as has been found by Houghton and Aldrich, to be an ideal general anesthetic for physiological

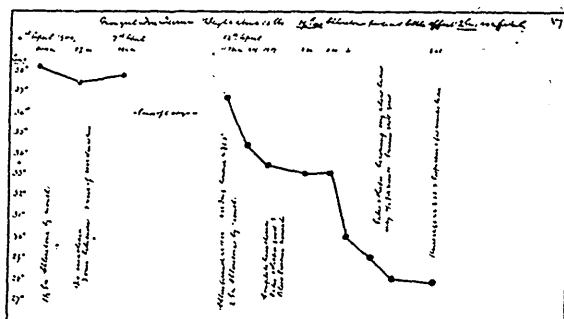


CHART 6.

work. Then we think there might be some doubt about the recovery of the animals, however, and this would limit its use to where recovery is not desired. The preliminary use of chloroform or ether might be used here, but this increases the risk, of course.

2. It has little or no effect upon the pulse, respiration and blood pressure for hours, but eventually, if the dose be large enough, these become depressed and the animal dies, the heart stopping before the respiration.

3. Chloretone has a most marked and profoundly depressing effect upon the body temperature, lowering this more than any other drug with which we are acquainted, with the possible exception of alcohol. This depressing effect is evident before the animal is even drowsy, and is in ratio to the dose given. It may be partially prevented by keeping the animal very warm.