

Milk, having a tendency to adhere to the fauces and pharynx, and in some way causing the membrane to spread, is absolutely forbidden till the throat is clean. After thirty-six or forty-eight hours, if the swelling of the tonsils and glands of the neck is subsiding, the atropia may be discontinued, or given in smaller doses, and the iron increased. But the atropia should not be discontinued too soon. Children can take it in the doses given for four or five days without any other effect than dilatation of pupil and slight dryness in the throat.

I use no spray or application to the throat.

If the nose becomes involved, I syringe it twice daily with perchloride solution, 1-2000 or salt and water. But if the patient will not permit this to be done quietly, it should not be done violently. In lieu of the syringing, the nurse may apply the solution to the nasal cavities on absorbent cotton frequently.

The diet should consist of beef tea, chicken broth, whiskey, water and fruit, especially pineapple. If the patient asks for a crust of bread, let it be given him.

To summarize :

1. Give the patient plenty of good water every hour or oftener, just before giving the medicine.
2. Give the patient no milk till the throat is clean.
3. Do not exhaust the patient by trying to spray or make applications to throat and nose.
4. Support the patient with alcohol, if necessary, from the very beginning of the treatment.

Yours truly,

J. BAUGH, M.D.

Hamilton, April 24th, 1894.

WHAT ARE MEDICAL ETHICS?

To the Editor of ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL.

SIR, Much has been written recently in medical journals as to the demoralizing effect on the integrity of the medical profession by doing "lodge practice," "making it convenient to have all operations done by a surgeon reported in all the local papers (unknown to the surgeon?)," "the appearance of the photograph of the *leading physician* of the place with a subjoined 'ad' in

the 'Rogues' Gallery' of the Dominion," etc. No doubt all these cases are breaches of the rules of medical ethics. Much of the writing on this subject has been in a general way. I deem it more practical to get at individual cases.

About a year ago I determined to take a trip to England with the sole object of visiting the hospitals of London. I expected to be absent about five or six months, and as I lived in a small country village where two doctors had appeared to be a necessity, for the convenience of the community, I desired to get a *locum tenens* during my absence. As that was the time of the year at which the medical colleges had set free their new-fledged graduates, I wrote the dean of one of those colleges to see if he could recommend a suitable man for the summer. I received correspondence from a number whom the dean had referred to me. I engaged one of them for the term of my absence. It was suggested to me to stipulate that he should discontinue practice on my return. I replied that if there was one single man in the profession so dishonorable as to stoop to that, I would not bind him, but would give him an opportunity of showing his inner nature. Well, true enough, that one man amongst the 2,500 medical men of Ontario was the one I had the lot to engage, for on my return he opened an office almost within a stone's throw of my door, and had the temerity to tell me that he did not think that he was straining the relations existing between us, or acting unprofessionally in so doing. It may be that I am over-sensitive in the matter because personally affected, but I hope this will elicit an expression of opinion from some of the members of the Discipline Committee of the Medical Council or from you, Mr. Editor, as editor of the official organ of the profession of Ontario, and if my opinions are too far-fetched, I am willing to submit to your ruling. If I have not been used unprofessionally, then to my mind medical ethics are a misnomer, and the practising of those means mentioned at the beginning of this article sinks into insignificance in comparison. Is this a sample of the manhood of recent graduates? I verily believe we cannot take this case as a criterion.

I am,

W. NEWELL.

Wyoming, Ont., May 8th, 1894.