

occurs in gout. In acute attacks we necessarily employ means intended to relieve the symptoms with greater rapidity than could be expected from the use of a mineral water alone. But as soon as the acute stages are passed, the employment of Vichy Water improves nutrition, prevents the formation of any excess of acid in the system, and forms the best treatment that can be instituted in order to check the rheumatic tendency and prevent the occurrence of relapses. In chronic forms of rheumatism the use of Vichy Water is so clearly indicated that we need insist no further upon it.

In diabetes, both of renal and hepatic origin, Vichy Water often has the happiest effects. While we desire generally to reduce the amount of water consumed by these patients, they still are compelled to take large quantities, owing to their insatiable thirst. In these cases, if we substitute Vichy Water for the ordinary water they drink, we will nearly always find that after a fairly brief lapse of time the polydipsia is lessened, owing to the general good effects brought about by the natural mineral water upon digestion and nutrition. While it may not be asserted to possess an actual curative action in such cases, there is no doubt that under the influence of Vichy Water many diabetics return to a condition very closely approximating the normal, and can often, at least for many years, live under the pleasant illusion that they are cured, providing they faithfully continue the treatment.

In inflammation of the bladder, we have in Vichy Water a means of often successfully combating the causes to which it is due. As it brings about a rapid alkalization of the urine, the latter becomes bland and unirritating. If the cystitis is a gouty symptom, as often occurs, it will rapidly get well, as, for instance, when it is a concomitant of uric acid gravel.

Within the limits of this short treatise we have only been able to rapidly show how vast a field exists for the careful and well-understood use of this peerless mineral water, which, like all other important therapeutic substances, should be given under the intelligent supervision of the medical man.

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THE Ninth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography under the patronage of H. M. the King Alfonso XIII. and H. M. the Queen-Regent, will as we have already announced, be held at Madrid from April 10th to 17th. Sir Douglas Galton, K.C.B., F.R.S., has been appointed chairman, Professor W. H. Corfield, M.A., M.D. Oxon., hon. treasurer, and Dr. Paul F. Moline, hon. secretary of the British Committee. Official receipts for tickets of membership may be obtained from Professor Corfield, 19, Savile-row, on payment of £1, and the Spanish railway companies will allow 50 per cent. to members of the Congress. Excursions to Spain at low prices have been organized by the Voyages Pratiques de Paris, Rue de Rome.