

into account. Some adults we know cannot take milk without suffering from digestive disturbance, and certain infants will thrive on peculiar mixtures which are not adapted to infants as a class. Again many infants will not thrive on that food which nature has provided for them. In the case of twins, without any apparent reason, both infants drawing their nutriment equally well from the same source, one has been known to thrive and grow, while the other atrophied and melted away. The feeding problem has always been a difficult one. Much has recently been accomplished, but there is yet much to be solved before artificial feeding can hope to compete with human breast feeding. Besides idiosyncrasies, much depends upon the circumstances by which the infant is surrounded, wealth or poverty, city or country life, all must be considered in preparing a substitute food and its composition must necessarily vary in a given case under different conditions and at different times.

*Second.* At the end of twenty-four hours, when the stomach and bowel has been pretty well washed out by nature, aided perhaps by mechanical or medicinal treatment, a little rice water, egg water, or some equally bland beverage may be allowed; this may supply only a small amount of nutriment, but it will be absorbed into the blood vessels and tissues, replacing the fluids drained from the system. Such albuminous drinks leave little or no residue in the intestinal canal to undergo fermentation and decomposition; further the deranged stomach and bowel is afforded rest and given an opportunity to recover its normal physiological function.

*Third.* When the symptoms have well-nigh disappeared, a very gradual return to feeding is permissible. To begin with, it is important to give nourishment in very moderate quantity to test, as it were, the digestive powers and not over-tax them by over-filling the stomach.

If the child is nursing and the mother's milk has been found to repeatedly disagree, a wet nurse should be secured whenever it is possible. There can be no difference of opinion in this regard, other things being equal, the average human breast fed infant is more likely to live and thrive than the infant fed by any other method. In the great majority of cases, however, where the mother is unable to suckle her child, human breast feeding cannot be secured and we are obliged to depend upon some artificial food as a substitute for the natural nutriment elaborated and secreted so perfectly by the mammary gland. The food substituted, if it is to be satisfactory, must in composition correspond as closely as possible to human milk. The milk of an animal, owing to the strong analogy existing between