4. Increased washing out of the uric acid stored in the body.

5. Increased uric acid synthesis in the body.

Alteration in diet is generally the most important factor. Foods rich in nuclein matter, as meats, meat extracts, etc., rapidly cause this excess.

There are many individuals who, from various causes, accumulate uric acid in their blood and bodies very readily and rapidly. These people, we say, possess the *uric acid diathesis;* their name is legion, and it is of them and their stomach disorders that I wish to speak in this paper.

How do disorders of the stomach lead to uricacidemia? An imperfect absorption of food leads to a deterioration of the blood and a poor oxidation and incomplete metabolism follows as a result.

Errors of diet that lead to an acid fermentation in the stomach will neutralize the alkalies formed during digestion, and the blood will not be supplied with the salts necessary for entering into combination with the uric acid, and the result is uricacidemia—a retention of uric acid in the blood.

The disorders of the stomach most likely to produce a uricacidemia are chronic asthenic gastritis, with motor insufficiency; cancer, and myasthenia, with lessened secretion. These conditions cause an excessive acidity, and a resulting lessened quantity of neutral phosphates of soda available for holding the uric acid in solution. The converse, however, is sometimes true; a dyspeptic often escapes uricacidemia. "I have been a dyspeptic all my life," said an old clergyman; "thank God for it, all my brothers died of gout." He hadn't been permitted to eat food that caused increase of uric acid.

Uricacidemia is a cause and means of continuance of gastric troubles.

Uric acid is not strongly toxic, yet it is decidedly irritating both when in solution and when precipitated in the tissues. This fact is agreed upon by such authorities as Garrod, Haig, Roberts and Lauder Brunton. The latter designates uric acid as *dirt* when retained in the blood. Uric acid can find its way into the gastric juice, and directly cause disturbance. The constant presence of excess of uric acid in the blood may lead to a thickening and contraction of the pyloric orifice of the stomach, just as it so often does in the knee and other joints. This is followed by a dilatation, gastroptosis, lessened motor power, etc. Haig, in his excellent work on this subject, says that uric acid, when present in the blood in any quantity, takes the nature of a colloid or gluey substance, and that it mechanically obstructs the