

The majority of our population live in towns and cities, in institutions, on ship-board, and some in remote regions away from civilization. The dietary of these people during a great part of the year consists largely of canned and dried vegetables, bread, artificial butter, sterilized milk, etc. All of these products have been subjected to heating or other processes that impair or destroy the vitamins they may have contained originally.

Even in regions where fresh vegetables and fruits are obtainable it would not be practical to feed sick people on them. As the editor of a well known medical periodical recently said: "It is frequently undesirable to give the kind and quality of food which would be necessary to yield a sufficient amount of a desired vitamin. One rarely prescribes a mess of spinach for a patient acutely ill or for a convalescent with impaired digestion, just because the vitamin that is present in spinach is desirable."

To meet the evident need, Parke, Davis & Co. have developed and perfected Metagen, a product containing the three known vitamins. These are fat-soluble A, water-soluble B, and water-soluble C. Apart from its unquestioned utility in the treatment of the so-called "deficiency" diseases, Metagen should prove of immense value in the treatment of poorly nourished infants and children, in all cases of subnutrition and reduced bodily tone, and in convalescence from febrile, infectious and wasting diseases, wherein failure to improve may

not be due so much to a lack of a properly balanced diet as to failure of assimilation. Here the vitamins play an important part in stimulating anabolism in adults and healthy growth in children. As a supplement to a highly concentrated diet in tuberculosis, Metagen should be tried for its immediate effect on nutrition. The same might be said of anemia and chlorosis.

In view of the radical change that has come over the accepted methods of preparing and supplying the food of the nation, it seems that the discovery of the vitamins and the elaboration of Metagen, the most available preparation of vitamins for the use of the physician, are not only timely but of the greatest importance in their bearing upon the health and well-being of the population.

BOOK REVIEWS

Traumatic Surgery—Moorehead—Published by W. B. Saunders Company, Canadian Sales Agents, the J. F. Hartz Company Ltd., Toronto.

A larger proportion of the general practitioners daily round is taken up with injuries resulting from accidents to-day than at any other time in our history—outside of those encountered in an actual theatre of war. The profession at large is thoroughly awakened to the problems of surgery connected with accidents and it is but natural the general practitioner will devote a higher grade of care consistent with the added responsibility that devolves on him.

This work aims to define the