

usually prevent the occurrence of a headache in the morning.

If, however, the headache should still come on, I recommend that the dose should be repeated, and in the case of people who suffer from very violent and often recurring headaches I give them the salicylate soda not merely morning and night, but three times a day, in small doses, either immediately before or after meals. The salicylate of soda is apt to produce a certain feeling of depression and weakness, and in order to counteract these I generally give it along with half a dram of aromatic spirit of ammonia. Some of my patients have taken salicylate of soda for several years without any apparent harm, but we know theoretically that all these drugs allied to salicylate of soda have a tendency to produce anæmia; and it may be advisable in some patients if you are giving the salicylate of soda regularly to give also a little iron to counteract the effect of the salicylate in producing anæmia.

There is another large class of drugs that are used for relieving headache. These, I should mention, ought always to be given before the headache becomes too severe, because when it is severe absorption from the stomach appears to be arrested, and many patients will tell you that the first dose they had of antipyrin acted like magic, but the next time they took it it had no effect whatever, and you can tell them the reason why. The first time they took it was before the headache had got very bad. It was, therefore, absorbed from the stomach and acted upon their nerve centers. The second time they waited too long, until the headache had got so bad that absorption ceased, and so the antipyrin was no more use to them in their stomach than in a bottle outside. Where you have to deal with headache it is always advisable to give your drug before the headache gets too bad. All these belong to the class of drugs which act upon the conducting fibers or cells in the cord and tend to disperse pain. I dare say you know the old story of the dirty Scotch woman. A lady came in to see her one day and found the children walking and grubbing about; and she said to her: "Do you not often wash your house?" "No," said the woman. "But when the children come in with a lot of mud on their boots and they tramp all over the floor, what do you do?" "Oh, I make them knock it about until there is none." She distributed the mud equally all over the floor and then she thought it was all right. Now that is what these drugs do to the pain.

Painful impressions do not pass to the cerebrum straight up as a rule, because, as you know, pain is largely conducted