

dressing of absorbent wool on ordinary principles, using merely a 2 per cent. solution of bicarbonate of soda or in some cases vaseline and bicarbonate (1 in 25), or the soda may be applied directly in the form of a powder. He finds that strong solutions do not act more quickly than a 2 percent., showing that the chief agent is the alkali, and not any antiseptic principle. The same method may be applied for purulent otitis, etc.—“Brit. Med. Jou.”

OIL IN URINALS.

It has been found that if urinals are coated with heavy oil, the urine leaves no traces or odor as it runs off (*Journal d'Hygiene*). The 178 public urinals in Vienna are treated in this way, with satisfactory results, saving the city \$30 a year for the water supply of each. Many other European cities have already adopted the use of oil for this purpose. The urinal is scrubbed with a broom and plenty of water once a week or fortnight. When it is quite dry it is painted with thick mineral oil, obtained by distilling petroleum. Another system has a permanent syphon supply of oil.—“*Jour. Am. Med. Assoc.*”

A case of excessive venery in a boy of 13 years is reported to the “*Louisville Medical Monthly*” by Dr. Leon Solomon, assistant in pediatrics in the Kentucky School of Medicine. The boy said that for more than a year he had been regularly indulging in sexual exercise, first with one, and later with four young girls, ranging in years from 12 to 16. They would come to him singly and in pairs, and beg for gratification, to which demand he acceded, when he was able, and as often as he was able. How one of his tender years could accomplish so severe a task is the wonder, yet it seems, according to the Doctor's account, he was ordinarily equal to the demands of the occasion.—“*Monthly Retrospect.*”

THE USEFUL LEMON.

The relations of fruit to digestion are particularly interesting. Perhaps the most important is the influence of the

juices of fruits upon germs. Fruit juices are disinfectants, they are germicidal. The juice of the lemon is as deadly to cholera germs as corrosive sublimate, or sulphur fumes, or formaldehyde, or any disinfectant. It is so powerful a germicide that if the juice of one lemon be squeezed into a glass of water, that is then left standing ten or fifteen minutes, the water will be disinfected; it makes little difference where the water has been obtained, or whether it has been boiled or filtered. This is a fact worth knowing, for any of us may find himself under circumstances in which it is impossible to get either boiled or filtered water. In such a case, the juice of a lemon will purify the water perfectly.

BANANAS AS A FOOD FOR TYPHOID PATIENTS.

After a long experience with typhoid patients, a foreign specialist maintains that the best food for them is the banana. He explains by stating that in this disease the lining membrane of the small intestines becomes intensely inflamed and engorged, eventually beginning to slough away in spots, leaving well-defined ulcers, at which places the intestinal walls become dangerously thin. Now, a solid, if taken into the stomach, is likely to produce perforation of the intestines, dire results naturally following, and this being the case, solid foods, or those containing a large amount of nutritive substances, are to be avoided as dangerous. But the banana, though it may be classed as a solid food, containing, as it does, some 25 per cent. nutrition, does not possess sufficient waste to irritate the sore spots; nearly the whole amount taken into the stomach is absorbed, giving the patient more strength than can be obtained from other food.

SALICYLIC ACID IN RHEUMATISM.

Husson (“*Rev. de Therap.*”) employs the following formula when he wishes to introduce salicylic acid through the skin of a patient who is suffering from rheumatism:—

R	Ac. salicylic pulv.	3j.
	Ol. terebinth....	3j.
	Lanoline....	3viij.