

Use of Citrate of Soda in Infant Feeding. Dr. Shaw, Albany, N.Y. Archives of Pediatrics, March, 1906.)

The reader of the paper first referred to previous papers by Wright, Poynton, Varot and others. He next related a series of laboratory and clinical experiments performed by himself. His laboratory experiments showed that when citrate of soda was added to milk in the strength of 1 grain to the ounce, the milk curdled in fine particles, instead of in a solid mass.

He then reported 18 clinical cases, the majority of which were suffering from gastro-intestinal indigestion. Of these 18 cases, 1 died, 4 showed losses, and 17 improved.

The preparation of the food was very simple. No attempt was made at percentage modification. The milk was diluted in proportions varying between 3 parts of water to 1 of milk, and 3 parts of milk to 1 of water. The milk was neither pasteurized nor sterilized. The citrate of soda was kept in a solution of 10 grains to the ounce, and this was added to the milk in the proportion of 1 grain to the ounce of milk. Where there was habitual vomiting this was increased to 3 grains to the ounce.

Further Observations of Citrate of Soda. Dr. J. W. Van Der-slice, of Chicago. (Archives of Pediatrics, August, 1906.)

He had used citrate of soda for two years, and now reported 9 cases, all of whom did well on the milk prepared as described.

Both of these papers were severely criticized by several speakers—some approving of the method, others strongly disapproving. One doctor stated that he had been unsuccessful in its use. Dr. Caillé stated that the less interference there was with the chemical constitution of milk, the better.

It is evident that further trials will be necessary before a definite conclusion, either favorable or otherwise, can be reached.

W. J. G.