

DISEASES OF THE SECOND SUMMER OF CHILDHOOD.—Dr. R. H. Goodier, Hannibal, August *Medical Review*, divides the causes into the following: 1. Bad sanitary conditions are very liable to give rise to serious trouble with the digestive organs. Bad air, impure water and filth will contaminate the system with diseased germs. 2. Extreme heat is a very potent factor in causing diseases of the digestive organs. Great heat prostrates the energies, and renders the child liable to pathological changes. It is also an important factor in deranging food supplies. 3. Improper feeding is a common source of summer diseases with children. This may occur as over feeding, under feeding, or impure feeding. During the second year care should be taken on these points. 4. Dentition may give rise to serious trouble, and influence the condition of digestion very much. The three main points in the treatment of gastro-intestinal trouble in children are the evacuant, antiseptic and tonic. The intestinal should be cleared out, and the diarrhoea feature must be taken as a guide for treatment. Antiseptic medication, such as salol, bracic acid, glycerine, bismuth, etc., are useful. The tonic treatment consists of all means to build up and conserve the energies. Pure air, pure water, proper food, and plenty of outdoor life are the mainstays of tonic and restorative measures.

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STATE-AIDED VS. VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.—“The 63rd Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association opened in London. Among the interesting subjects under discussion was that of “State-Aided *versus* Voluntary Hospitals.” Dr. Knowlesley Sidley read a paper on the subject. He contended that the chief evils of the voluntary system are extravagance, frauds, over-crowding, and the abuse of the system by patients able to pay. In conclusion, he said that the system was decidedly inferior to the State-control system. He moved that hospital doctors ought to be paid by the State. The motion was well supported, but was rejected by a small majority.” The above cutting from the public press, with reference to the question of “State-Aided *versus* Voluntary Hospitals,” shows the trend of medical opinion at the present time. Medical men are awakening to the fact that they are not only giving to the poor to a greater proportionate degree than to any other class of men, but also that they are being constantly imposed upon by those who are able to pay for treatment but who prefer to obtain relief by entering hospitals intended for the poor only. Though we wish our confreres of the British Medical Association success, we feel that it will be a long time before the public will be sufficiently enlightened and liberal to show appreciation of the services of hospital physicians and surgeons by offering pecuniary rewards.