

sease as pneumonia, they are certainly encouraging and deserving of further trial.

F. C. SHATTUCK. "The Dietetic Treatment of Nephritis."

This article largely reflects and emphasizes the teaching of von Noorden.

Acute nephritis is of all grades of intensity, varying from a trivial process, the only danger of which is lest it become chronic, to one which suddenly and totally disables the kidneys.

Milk diet and copious supplies of water are in many cases likely to increase the difficulty owing to the incapacity of the glomeruli to filter off the excessive fluid. Recovery, often complete and lasting, is the rule provided a brief period of danger can be tided over. Starvation is now considered the best dietetic treatment of acute nephritis, absolute starvation for a few days in severe cases with scanty or suppressed urine and cedema of rapid onset and growth. In cases of less severity, about a quart of milk can be given daily with cereals and fats in moderate amount. The phosphoric acid which may be difficult to excrete may be precipitated by the addition of small quantities of calcium carbonate. The quantity of food is to be gauged rather by the amount of urine than by the quantity of albumen, due consideration being also paid to the general nutrition and the gastro-intestinal digestive power. Animal broths are almost the last things to be allowed, being of little nutritive value, and containing extractives which are dangerous to those liable to renal intoxication.

In acute exacerbations of chronic conditions the dietetic management is conducted on similar lines, although complete starvation may not be as safe owing to the impairment of general nutrition.

For therapeutic purposes cases of chronic nephritis may be divided into two classes—those with and those without dropsy. Where dropsy is present, especially if it is mainly cardiac, limitation of liquids, including water, is usually important. When water is excreted with difficulty increasing the blood mass merely increases the work on a heart already often overburdened. In such circumstances a relatively dry diet is advisable, and also in the contracted kidney limitation of fluid is often important to prevent undue strain being thrown on the heart and so hastening the period of defective compensation.

von Noorden's varied diet, with a fair amount of proteid is recommended, and no reason exists for using white meats in preference to red.

Green vegetables and fresh fruits are almost without exception permissible and desirable. Celery, which is forbidden by v. Noorden, is