

answer the requirements, for they contain either too little quinine or they are not sufficiently dissolved in the digestive fluids. Others contain undesirable constituents.

I would refer to the very careful work of Dreser on tasteless quinine derivatives, in which, on the ground of accurate physiological investigations, he concludes that of the combinations known as euquinine, saloquinine and Aristochin, the last named, which is a neutral carbonic-acid-ester of quinine, is to be regarded as the most useful.

Aristochin contains 96.1 per cent. of quinine base (hydrochlorate 81.7 per cent.), and constitutes a white, tasteless powder. It is readily soluble in dilute gastric juice, and is not precipitated in its passage through the intestine. After its administration abundant quinine is eliminated in the urine, but like euquinine the amount excreted is less than that of the hydrochlorate. The absorbability of the free quinine base as compared with that of Aristochin is as 100 to 80 per cent. Dreser found that Aristochin, in contrast to other quinine preparations, inclusive of euquinine, causes no local disturbances of the stomach, that its destructive action upon protozoa is double as strong as in the case of quinine and euquinine, while the general toxicity of the quinine molecule, as tested on warm and cold-blooded animals, is most diminished in the form of Aristochin. The effect of Aristochin upon the heart is also more favourable than that of quinine.

At the incentive of my chief, Prof. Fruehwald, I have experimented with the new remedy upon a number of children with whooping cough. The drug was also tried in a few cases of hectic fever, headaches and malaria with good effect. On the other hand, it proved ineffective in a few children suffering with pneumonia and pleurisy, perhaps because it was not dissolved or absorbed in the stomach owing to the absence of hydrochloric acid.

Altogether 68 cases were treated. I selected only those in which the diagnosis was beyond doubt, that is, those in which the attacks were typical, or there were positive data in regard to the manner of infection. Many of the patients were members of the same family, or neighbours or schoolmates. Furthermore, the cases complicated with febrile phenomena were excluded, because these did not permit of a correct judgment of a remedy intended for whooping cough. Especial attention was given to recent