

should be used to allay excitement, to remove pain and to control peristalsis ; but it is unfortunate if it is required before the bowel is cleansed. While the temperature remains high, its use should be restricted. It should be used separately and is contraindicated in cases where there is any cerebral excitement. Dr. Gordon said he was skeptical of antiseptics. The extent of surface and the poison to be neutralized is great ; but after the affected surface is cleansed, they may then prevent putrefaction and irritation of the membrane. If used, they should be given in the food or after it. Asepsis should be secured to prevent decomposition. In the administration of antiseptics in the late stages, much benefit may be had from them, especially H.Cl. Astringents should never be used.

Dr. BENEDICT (Buffalo) spoke in regard to antiseptics inside the body, and said that he was very skeptical of such remedies. If the bowel is full of fecal contents it is a difficult matter to ascertain whether they are any good or not ; but following the purgation after the fecal mass has passed through the bowel antiseptics can be used, and then you will find them valuable. Beta naphthol was no good. The condition is one of toxemia. Opium he practically never gives to children. There is, however, one drug that acts as a powerful sedative, and that is catnip tea.

Dr. HOLMES (Chatham, Ont.) spoke of the mortality, and said that it was a fatal disease, and doubted if there was any branch of treatment that had improved more than the treatment in these classes of cases. The relief of pain by opium, he thinks, is a mistake. The pain that these children suffer from, and the uneasiness they manifest, is due to the abnormal contents of the alimentary canal or to the high temperature usually accompanying these conditions. Opium will relieve the pain, but does much harm in other ways ; it obscures the symptoms. In former years he used to employ it, but it was accompanied with so many drawbacks that he abandoned it many years ago. He said he had reverted to the temperature, but the essayist had not referred to the therapeutic measure of hydrotherapy ; putting the child in the cold bath. Remember, it is through some error in diet that the child begins to vomit ; the bowels move frequently ; sunken eyes and depressed fontanelle can be observed. The condition of that child will be that its hands and feet are cold and blue, and if the temperature be taken in the rectum, you will find it 103 to 106 degrees. You can reduce this temperature by the cold bath, and then administer the calomel and the castor oil, and that may be all the treatment necessary. Abstain from the administration, in these cases, of opium ; but you may use it as the condition becomes chronic ; that is a different thing. In these the child wastes away from mal-nutrition and there is a condition of chronic marasmus supervening. In these cases small doses of opium prove beneficial.