

The second, third and fourth can be considered together, as our only known means of limiting or stopping the growth of the bacteria is to use measures to sustain or increase the physiologic resistance, and to force elimination is also to sustain the physiologic resistance.

The physiologic resistance is probably best supported by food, good air in abundance, sunshine, sleep and rest, and good elimination. Our knowledge of support of the physiologic resistance will be increased when it is known which bacteria or toxins are destroyed by the serum and which are antagonized by the leucocytes. Staphylococci and streptococci are chiefly destroyed by phagocytes¹ and injection of mediums to increase the phagocytes such as serum, blood, various proteid substances, yeast, etc.,¹ may prove to be valuable agents. Things which cut down the physiologic resistance such as narcosis, hunger, thirst, anemia, alcohol, muscular exhaustion, and abdominal temperatures² should be avoided.

Duncan³ calls attention to the very close relation between animal poisons and substances that interrupt catalytic action (Enzyme paralyzers). He also calls attention to the fact that some colloidal substances, minute particles of platinum in suspension and mercury antagonize catalytic paralyzers. This suggests a hope that chemistry may determine the action of the bacterial toxins and may discover remedies that will produce an artificial immunity.

LOCAL TREATMENT.

This is of minor importance when compared with the systemic treatment and will be discussed under "An Outline in Hospital Treatment," which will be taken up later.

A STUDY OF 66 CASES.

The cases included in the report contain all patients with puerperal infection that I have treated during the last five

¹ Hektoen; Keen's System of Surgery, Vol. 1. ² Ibid. ³ Chemistry of Commerce, page 88.