

7. There is no evidence that the chlorides tend to accumulate in any particular organ in pneumonia, but, on the other hand, all the organs, and the fixed tissues in general, seem to be somewhat richer in chlorides than normally.

8. Attempts to produce chloride retention in pyrexia artificially induced by the injection of the pneumococcus and by other means have failed.

9. As to the reason for the passage of chlorides out of the blood into the fixed tissues in pneumonia, one can merely speculate. Hutchison is unable to agree with the view that the chlorides are retained secondarily and as the result of the retention of a considerable quantity of water. The increased excretion of chlorides in malaria is probably to be attributed to increased arterial tension in the kidney during the pyrexial stage of that disease.

DIETETICS IN THE SUMMER DIARRHŒA OF INFANTS.

S. Henry Dessau (*Clinical Recorder, The Medical Times*) is of the opinion that in an acute attack of summer diarrhœa in a child under two years of age all albuminous and starchy foods should be withheld at once. Milk and the milk foods only tend to furnish fresh fuel for the growth of pathogenic bacteria in the gastro-intestinal tract. Give instead toast-water, made by laying in a large bowl two pieces of stale white bread toasted brown on both sides; pour on boiling water till covered; add a pinch of salt and allow to stand till cool. The clear water is then poured off into a fruit-jar and kept cool by the ice. Barley-water, made by boiling a handful of pearl barley in a pint of water for an hour or more, a pinch of salt being added, can also be prepared, and after it is cool the supernatant liquid can be poured off for use. From one to three tablespoonfuls of either of these foods can be given every hour or two, for 48 hours if necessary. They contain a considerable percentage of nutriment which is easily digested, and, if properly prepared, are rarely vomited. Alcoholic stimulants may be added if necessary. These drinks should always be given cold, as they are thus more grateful to an exhausted and feverish infant.

When the vomiting and stools have improved, which with proper therapeutics usually occurs within 48 hours, nursing may be resumed at intervals of either two, three, or four hours, according to age.

In deciding the question as to the best form of food to use with artificially fed babies, it must be borne in mind that