

result is injurious. The best diet is carbohydrates, partially dextrinised, and neutralize the excess acidity by large doses of alkalies. The second problem under dietetics is the advisability of giving predigested food. It is quite useless to employ peptonized albumins so long as the motor power of the stomach is normal. In cases of excessive stomach acidity, where the salivary ferment is at once destroyed, we can give the patient abundance of carbohydrates, if we also order alkalies and Taka diastase.

The next topic discussed by Dr. Herschell was the drug treatment of stomach diseases. Under this heading three main points were raised: The action of drugs in lessening the secretion of hydrochloric acid, in promoting the flow of gastric juice and in arresting fermentation.

With regard to the excessive secretion of hydrochloric acid, it must be borne in mind that there is sometimes an absolute increase in the amount of secreting gland tissue. In such cases no drug can do any good, and we must rely upon a bland diet. In neuratic cases of hyperchlorhydria, we can do something by the help of medicines. The one that has given Dr. Herschell most satisfaction is tannin in some form. Lavage is useful, using 1 per cent. solution Sodium Carbonate, followed by one-half per cent. solution of tannin.

In the opposite cases of deficient secretion of hydrochloric acid, the best remedy is the administration of the dilute acid. But it should usually be given in much larger doses than is the custom, a drachm or so being quite harmless. Strychnia is useful in this connection. The notion that the formation of hydrochloric acid can be increased by giving an alkali before meals, is a myth.

The third use of drugs, to prevent fermentation, has been much abused. There is really no drug that can be given for this purpose. The antiseptic of the stomach is its own hydrochloric acid. When the motor power of the stomach is poor, and food lies too long undigested, there may be fermentation. Means should be taken to increase the peristaltic action of the organ. When the administration of hydrochloric acid, and the regulation of the diet do not control gastric fermentation, wash out the stomach sufficiently often to keep the patient comfortable.

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DR. J. N. E. BROWN, lately of this city, safely arrived in Dawson. Among the Toronto men who are in practice in the Yukon district and doing well are Drs. Gus Richardson and Arthur Sutherland.