

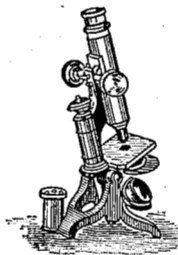
AGE.	MONTHLY GAIN.	WEIGHT AT END OF THE MONTHS.	
		lbs.	ozs.
month.			
1st	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
2nd	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	4
3rd	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	15
4th	26	13	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
5th	21	14	14 $\frac{1}{4}$
6th	21	16	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
7th	17	17	5
8th	21	18	10
9th	23	20	1
10th	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	21	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
11th	11	22	0
12th	7	22	7

Whenever weaning takes place, it should be done gradually, at first substituting the bottle for the breast once or twice in the twenty-four hours, and watching the result before doing more than this.

(To be continued.)

### Medical Matters.

#### IMPORTANCE OF THE DISINFECTION OF THE URINE OF TYPHOID-FEVER PATIENTS.



THE disinfection of urine in infectious cases is a matter in which nurses are closely concerned, and in faithfully performing this duty, even if no express directions are given to them, they may safeguard the public from diseases. We, therefore, draw their attention to the

importance of the following circular issued by the New York City Board of Health:—It is the earnest desire of the Department of Health to direct the attention of physicians to the great importance of the disinfection of the urine of individuals suffering from typhoid fever. It has been known for a long time that the *bacillus typhosus* is occasionally to be found in the urine in this disease. Recent observations, however, have shown that the bacilli are present in the urine in a large percentage of all cases. In fact, it is probable that in 50 per cent. of the cases, the typhoid bacilli are present in the urine at some stage of the disease, and at some times in almost incredible numbers, estimated at many millions to the cubic centimeter. In the majority of cases the bacilli appear in the urine rather late in the course of the disease and soon disappear, but in probably ten per cent. they persist throughout convalescence, and exceptionally, for months and even years afterward.

The presence of typhoid bacilli in the urine

is frequently not attended by any change in its appearance or composition, nor do they necessarily produce any appreciable lesions in the kidneys or any portion of the urinary tract. The urine may be perfectly clear and limpid, absolutely normal in appearance, and yet contain large numbers of typhoid bacilli. In other instances there are evidences in the urine of changes in the kidney or of inflammation in the pelvis of the kidney or bladder. The urine under certain conditions appears to constitute a good culture medium for the bacilli, and they may multiply in it after it is passed. From its fluid nature it is readily splashed about and may thus infect the hands and persons of the patients and attendants, and more especially the bedding, bed clothing, etc., so that in cases of typhoid fever the greatest care should be taken to disinfect it as well as the stools. In fact, the former often contains the bacilli in larger numbers than the latter, and may be a greater source of danger, as the bacilli are not only present in large numbers, but persist for a longer time after recovery.

Epidemics of typhoid fever can usually be traced to contamination of the water or food supply, and any single case may prove the starting point or focus of an epidemic. The recent observations in regard to the infectious character of the urine readily explain the occurrence of some of the isolated cases and outbreaks which it is sometimes difficult to trace to their source.

The urine from cases of typhoid fever may be readily disinfected by almost any of the various chemical disinfectants, as it is fluid, and there are no solid masses to be penetrated, as in the case of fæces. The disinfection of the urine should be continued until the restoration of health is complete. The best disinfectant for this purpose is carbolic acid; it is effectual, cheap, and easily obtained. Urine, to which has been added one-third of its volume of a one-to-twenty solution of carbolic acid, is thoroughly disinfected in a few minutes. The best method is to keep the urinal or bedpan partly filled with the disinfecting solution at all times. In this way any germs present in the urine are almost instantly destroyed.

It is believed that careful disinfection of the urine and fæces in typhoid fever would eventually produce a sensible diminution in the number of cases of this disease occurring in New York city, and a corresponding reduction in the death rate from it.

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