

of collapse set in, and a loss of 5 ounces in weight. A few bottles of modified milk were at once given, and the child rapidly progressed. This child (and others when kept on fruit juice too long) developed a superficial ulceration of the mucous membrane of the mouth, caused by the acidity of the fruit.

"Washing the mouth out with solution of bicarbonate of soda, one teaspoonful to the pint, soon counteracted this, and it did not seem to give much discomfort to the baby. This baby, however, had a great preference for strawberry, melon, cherry, and less acid-tasting fruits.

"In fact, strawberry juice had to be limited in quantity, as he proved so particularly greedy about it. At the end of seven weeks he weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces, a gain of 2½ pounds.

"Lately we have been able to prove that fruit juice has an extraordinary effect on convulsions in infants. A nasal feed of B (4 ounces of fruit juice) has completely stopped convulsions within 1 to 2 hours, when other treatments have completely failed. This has now been proved in a large number of cases. One, a baby boy of seven weeks, was admitted with acute enteritis. He had been in convulsions twenty-four hours; temperature 103°. Ordinary methods of treatment were tried (rectal lavage, mustard bath, &c.), and after four hours, with no success, a nasal feed of fruit juice, 2½ ounces, was given. The convulsions ceased within one hour. Ordinary treatment for acute enteritis was then reverted to."

Miss Payne quotes the conclusions arrived at by Dr. H. B. Gladstone, medical officer of the Home—whom she thanks for his permission to contribute this article descriptive of his cases and their treatment—as incorporated in an article in the *Practitioner*. He says:—

"Fruit juice can be taken to the extent of a pint daily, with immediate benefit to a dyspeptic atrophic infant under one or two

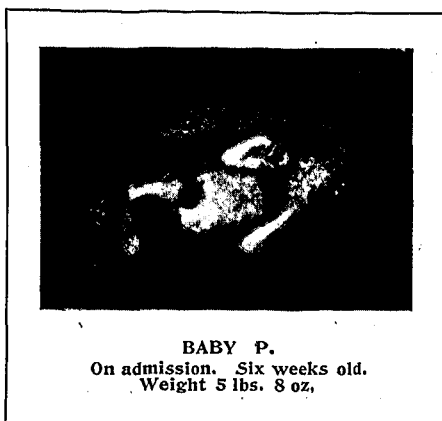
years of age. A carefully selected predigested food, low in albumin and fat and high in sugar, will then be both digested and absorbed, and result in gain of weight.

"At first a loss of weight must be expected, but by the end of the first week this is usually regained. Unless the juice is followed by a diet scientifically adapted to a weak digestion, it

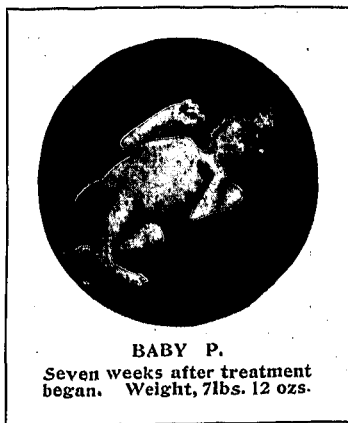
does no permanent good whatever. The juice no doubt acts partly on account of its acid reaction, rendering the bowel unsuitable for germs growing in an alkaline medium. It has a tonic cleansing effect on the mucous membrane of the digestive tract, and is a diuretic, diaphoretic, and general alterative. It supplies an attractive drink, enjoyed by all babies, containing 10 per cent. of soluble carbohydrate food,

removes the irritability and restlessness of the child, promotes quiet sleep, and renders the digestive organs able to digest and absorb a light diet.

"Whilst oranges were available, the juice was made of two parts of orange juice to one of apple juice, diluted with one-quarter the quantity of water. The apple juice was obtained by shredding apples on a vegetable grater and expressing the juice by means of a fruit press (obtainable at the Civil Service Stores for 11s.). Since oranges have become unobtainable, melons and apple juice have been used with somewhat less good results. . . . It is probable that any fruit juice available would succeed, provided the acid fruits were not used in too large a proportion, and that, when oranges are out of season, it will be found advisable to add a small quantity of lemon juice to the sweeter fruit juices."



BABY P.
On admission. Six weeks old.
Weight 5 lbs. 8 oz.



BABY P.
Seven weeks after treatment began. Weight, 7 lbs. 12 ozs.

At a meeting of the Society for the Study of Inebriety, Dr. R. Murray Leslie said that the trained midwife of to-day had gone a long way towards banishing that hideous custom of giving stout to nursing women, which her Sairey Gamp predecessor invariably recommended.

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