



American Natural
Hygiene Society

HERBERT M. SHELTON

The SCIENCE and FINE ART of NATURAL HYGIENE

The Hygienic System: Volume I



The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene

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From The Publisher

Every philosophic movement has its literary cornerstones, and the modern day Natural Hygiene movement is no exception.

Dr. Shelton's seven-volume *Hygienic System*, which he began crafting in 1934, indisputably serves as the literary foundation upon which the modern day Natural Hygiene movement is based.

With this publication of *The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene*, the American Natural Hygiene Society completes the reprinting of the first three volumes of Dr. Shelton's classic *Hygienic System*.

The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene is an exact reprint of the text of the rare second edition (1953) of Volume I of the *Hygienic System*. Originally given the technical title "Orthobionomics," *The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene* provides the reader with the basic principles of Natural Hygiene, focusing on basic physiology as viewed through Hygienic eyes. Nowhere else will the reader find such an in-depth examination of the basic principles of Natural Hygiene.

The three volumes of the *Hygienic System* which the American Natural Hygiene Society has brought back into print: Vol. I *The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene*, Vol. II *The Science and Fine Art of Food and Nutrition*, and Vol. III *The Science and Fine Art of Fasting*, are the most important works in the series. They describe the basic foundation upon which this profound health system is built. Subsequent volumes were more narrowly focused and are of a limited interest.

In reprinting the classic works of Dr. Shelton, with deep respect for his original texts, the American Natural Hygiene Society is fulfilling an important part of its fundamental commitment to upholding the uncompromising truths of Natural Hygiene on every level.

This book describes an approach to health care that has had beneficial effects for thousands of people who sought Dr. Shelton's care for a variety of health problems.

Nothing in this book is intended to constitute medical treatment or advice of any nature. Moreover, as every person responds differently to diet and lifestyle changes, it is strongly emphasized that any person desiring to implement the recommendations in this book should consult his or her doctor.

In publishing and reprinting *The Science and Fine Art of Natural Hygiene* it is the intention of the American Natural Hygiene Society to keep information about the work of Herbert M. Shelton available to the reading public. Dr. Shelton's theories and teachings are his own and are not necessarily consistent with those of the American Natural Hygiene Society.

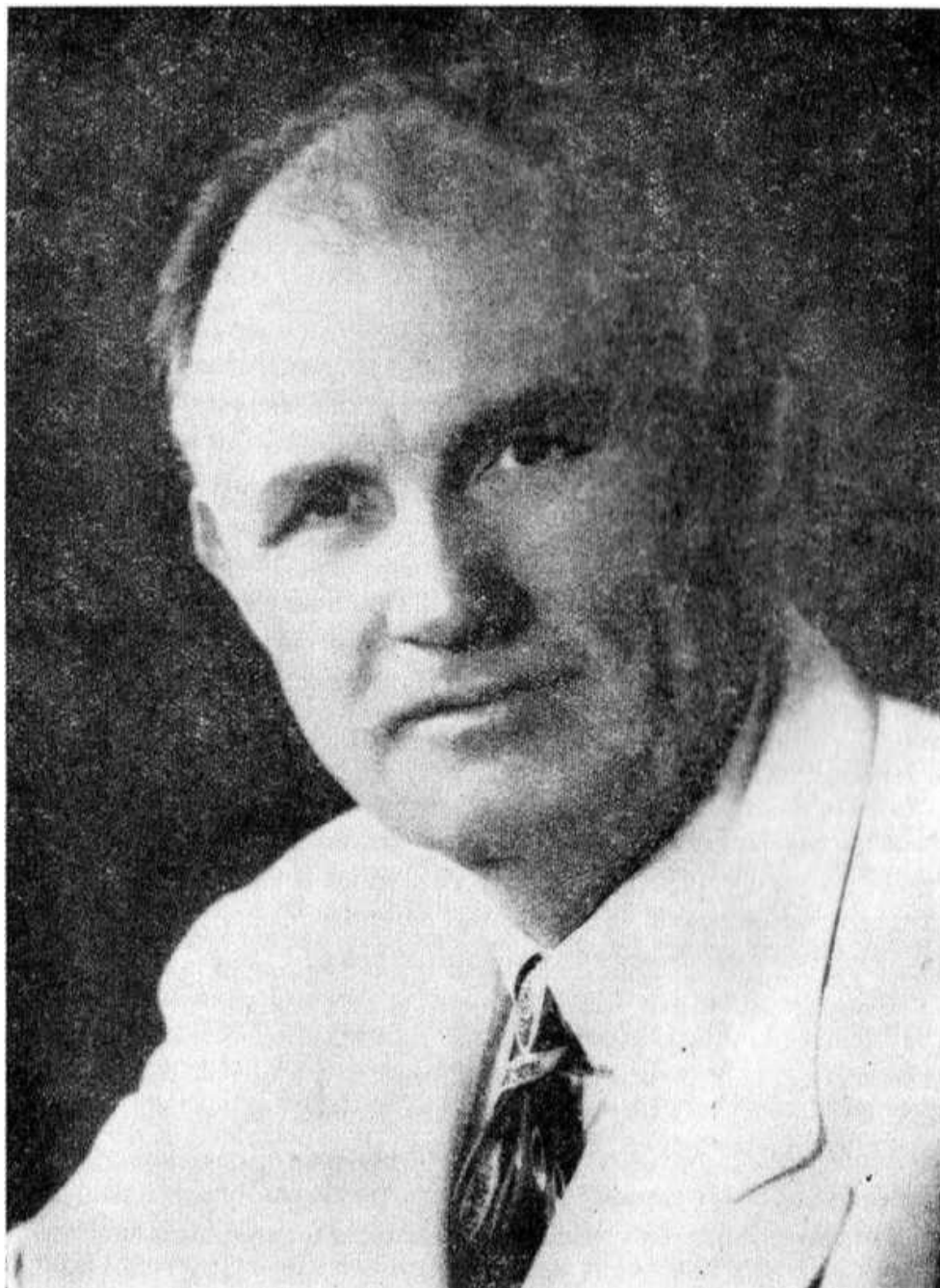
The American Natural Hygiene Society is dedicated to teaching people how to live the healthiest, happiest lives possible. For membership information about the Society and its award-winning *Health Science* magazine write: American Natural Hygiene Society, P.O. Box 30630, Tampa, FL 33630, Phone (813) 855-6607.

Dedication

ALL men everywhere, in all countries, and in all ages, in all professions and in all schools of “healing,” who have either directly or indirectly contributed to our knowledge of *Orthobionomics* and *Orthopathy*, and especially to

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Isaac Jennings | Emmet Densmore |
| Russell T. Trall | Chas. E. Page |
| Sylvester Graham | Felix L. Oswald |
| George H. Taylor | O. S. Fowler |
| Joel Shew | James C. Jackson |
| Wm. L. Alcott | Susanna W. Dodds |
| Thomas L. Nichols | Mary Gove |
| Robert Walter | Harriet A. Shaw |
| Helen Densmore | John H. Tilden |
| Edward H. Dewey | Hermann Reinheimer |
| Edmond R. Moras | Florence Nightingale |

This volume is respectfully dedicated by
— The Author



*Yours for Health Truth and Medical Liberty
Herbert M. Shelton*

EVERY birth is an hygienic regeneration. The constitutional defects which degenerate parents transmit to their offspring are modified by the inalienable bequests of an elder world—the redeeming instincts

which our All-mother grants to every child of earth Individuals may deprave these instincts till their functions are entirely usurped by the cravings of a vicious appetency, but this perversion is never hereditary; Nature has ordained that all her children should begin the pilgrimage of life far beyond the point where the roads of misery and happiness diverge. As the golden age, the happy childhood of the human race returns to the morning of every life, the normal type of our primogenitor asserts itself athwart the morbid influences of all intermediate generations; the regeneration of every new birth brings mankind back from vice to innocence; from mysticism to realism; from ghost-land to earth. For a time those better instincts thwart the influence of miseducation as persistently as confirmed vices afterwards thwart the success of reformatory measures; but if the work of correct physical culture were begun in time, our innate propensities would conspire to further its purposes and bar the boundary between virtue and vice which conscience often guards in vain. The temptations that beset the adult convert do not exist for the wards of Nature. To the palate of a normal child, alcohol is as unattractive as corrosive sublimate; the enforced inactivity of our limbs, which afterwards becomes dyspeptic indolence, is as irksome to a healthy boy as to a wild animal, and a young Indian would prefer the open air of the stormiest winter night to the hot miasma of our tenement-houses. Few smokers can forget the effects of the diffident first attempt—the revolt of the system against the incipience of a virulent habit. The same with other abuses of our domestic and social life. If we would preserve the purity of our physical conscience, we might refer all hygienic problems to an unerring oracle of nature.

— Felix L. Oswald

Introduction

If any one thing distinguishes our times from all past times more decidedly than anything else, it is that mind is advancing in all that can promise glory and happiness. With its many instruments of precision it soars high into the realms of the material universe and unfolds the many wonders that have been hidden from the peoples of the past. It pierces deep into the dark recesses of our little world; it is dis severing matter and displaying the many marvelous properties of its component parts; it is rapidly subduing the long-established tyranny of the old elements and compelling them to yield their power subservient to the direction of man; slowly, sometimes it seems rapidly, mind is unravelling the mysteries of nature, supplying man with transcendent powers and slowly, painstakingly unravelling the laws of nature in many fields of existence. Thousands of ancient errors have been dragged out into the light and shown in their true colors, so that science has actually been called a “search for errors.”

But with all of the great advance in many departments of science, we are still in the period of pre-history in our thinking about health, disease and healing. That men trained in the sciences of physics, chemistry, biology, anatomy, physiology, etc., can still resort to *animistic* thinking when they consider drugs and doses, for instance, is the paradox of paradoxes. Because what is called the *Modern Science of Medicine* is bogged down in the mire of *shamanism*, it is not modern, it is not science, it is not medicine. It enfolds in its current premises and conclusions, as well as in its total practices, sophisticated, rationalized and attenuated translations of the primitive superstitions of the shaman. This means that the delusions and feats of magic, out of which, historically, *medicine* originated, are still inherent in its boasted science. Its bacteriology is but a new demonology; its *cures* and *immunizers* but means of exorcism; its psychiatry and psychoanalysis but new forms of theurgy. Instead of the progress of which the modern shaman continually boasts representing genuine advance in knowledge and means to ends, it constitutes subtle refinements of the superstitions, and hallucinations of primitive man and technological improvements upon his many and varied techniques of magic.

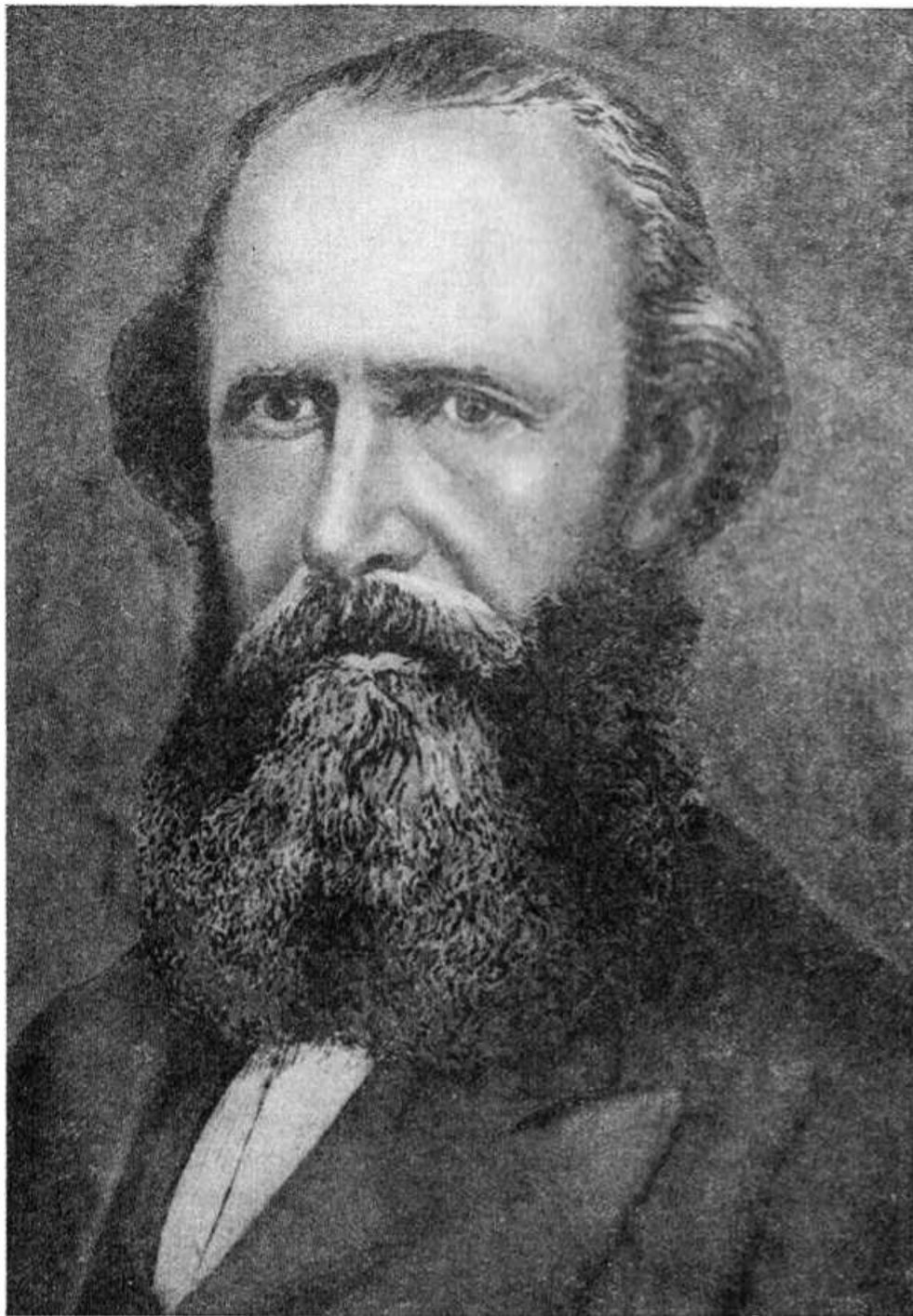
When the church put out the light of classic learning, there followed a barren interregnum, a period of intellectual darkness and stagnation, which lasted for more than twelve centuries, and which served as an insuperable barrier to the world's intellectual progress. Fortunately, towards the end of the fifteenth century there came an intellectual awakening, a new birth of the spirit of progress and learning. The long, dark winter was over and the first gentle breathing of a largo intellectual springtime

was wafted over the earth, thawing out the minds of men and bidding them awake from their long season of intellectual lethargy. A spirit of inquiry began to take possession of the more advanced minds, which resulted in unlocking the buried treasures of wisdom and knowledge contained in the literature of Greece and Rome.

The increasing power of the ascending sun of the new intellectual day started a thaw in the intellectual world; the snows upon the mountains were melted and the ice-bound streams of knowledge unlocked, so that once more their waters could flow in their regular channels and water the earth. It was inevitable, that, as the River of Knowledge, swelled by the mountain torrents and by the rains of the new Spring, rushed on impetuously, sweeping away the barriers which had so long stayed its progress, the time should come when the superstitions of medicine should be washed away in the flood.

Although there were fore-runners, the real medical awakening came in the early part of the nineteenth century. A new spirit of inquiry took possession of men. They went to Nature to learn the ways of life. This questioning of medical dogmas and practices was more or less world wide; but we are here interested chiefly in what took place in America.

In Europe, medical reform took two general directions. Under the leadership of Hahnemann, there was a move towards decreased dosage; under the leadership of Priessnitz, there was a movement to substitute physical measures for drugs. In America, medical reform also took two general directions. Under the leadership of Samuel Thompson, there was a movement away from heroic dosage and the lancet and virulent poisons and a tendency to return to herbal "remedies;" under the leadership of Trall, Jennings and Graham there was a tendency to discard all drugs and the lancet and rely wholly upon *Hygiene*. The American and European movements intermingled so that the *Hygienic* movement became corrupted with the admixture of hydrotherapy, massage and manual adjustments, with a resulting great loss in vitality and effectiveness.



Russell T. Trall

As a movement, *Hygiene* was launched in 1832, when Sylvester Graham gave his first series of lectures in New York. From New York he went to Providence, Boston and other cities, and soon a vigorous movement came into being. His followers were known as *Grahamites* and his teachings soon became known as *Grahamism*. A brief account of the development of the movement thus started and of the men who

became identified with it and contributed to it, will be given in another part of this volume. At this point, I need only say that Graham and his followers met with much opposition from the medical professions, the bakers, butchers, tobacco dealers, sellers of alcoholic drinks, etc. For all of these soon realized that the spread of his teachings would greatly curtail their incomes.

Graham was soon joined by Isaac Jennings, a physician of the old school, who had discovered for himself the fallacies of medical theories and futilities and the dangers of medical dosing, and William Alcott, also a regular physician who had discarded drugs and the lancet, and a little later by Russell Thacker Trall, another physician of the old school who had become convinced of the radical unsoundness of medical theory and practice. Others became a part of the advancing movement, so that it swelled to a tide that promised to sweep all before it. Victor Hugo made the sage observation that "There is no greater force in the world than an idea whose time has come." *Hygiene* was more than an idea. It was a complex of ideas, principles and practices whose *time* had come. In a few short years it had circled the globe.

No perfumed breath of Spring, no sparkling beauty of a morning in June, no sweet melody of mocking bird or nightingale, no exquisite joy of sense can stir the center of man's being like the grasp of a new and vital truth. His whole being is quickened, his senses are new senses, his emotions new emotions, his reason, his affection, his imagination are born anew; the change in him is greater than he knows; he marvels at a new vision that unfolds before him; he finds its ecstasy an unutterable thing; he knows that its unfoldment contains inconceivable surprises for him and for all mankind. He is irresistably impelled to give the new truth to the world.

Personal hygiene is an old, old story, but it was not until Sylvester Graham did so, that it was ever carried to the people with the fervor of a crusader. It was not until Jennings, Graham, Alcott and Trall came upon the scene that *Hygiene* was systematized, its principles developed and it was offered to the people as an all-sufficient way of life. There was beginning at that time a popular protest against the bleeding and heroic dosing practiced by the "regular" medical profession. Homeopathy and physio-medicalism arose in response to the demand for milder medication; while the *Hygienic System* came in response to and created or increased opposition to all medication whatsoever.

The principles and practices of the *Hygienic School* are new, original and independent. They have never hitherto, been written into the books of any of the schools of so-called healing, nor taught in any of their colleges, nor recognized by the various "healing" professions. While they are each and all in direct opposition to each and all of the fundamental principles on which popular so-called healing systems are

based, they are demonstrably in harmony with the laws of nature. *Hygiene* reverses all of their doctrines and repudiates all of their practices. The *Hygienic School* is the first, and thus far the only school in the world that made the laws of life and the conditions of health the leading features of its teachings and practices.



SYLVESTER GRAHAM

Hygiene is that branch of biology that relates to the preservation and restoration of health. It is not a branch of so-called medicine. The hygiene of health and the hygiene of impaired health are one; but, for convenience, we divide it into *Preservative Hygiene*, or the *Hygiene of Healthful Maintenance* and *Remedial Hygiene*, or the *Hygiene of Health Restoration*. *General Hygiene*, which embraces both *Preservative* and *Remedial Hygiene*, is the employment, in the preservation and restoration of health, of materials, agents and influences or conditions that have a normal relation to life, according to well defined and demonstrable laws and principles of nature. To be a hygienic material the thing must fulfill some normal need of healthy life.

By *Preservative*, or *Preventive Hygiene* is meant the intelligent employment of hygienic principles, materials and conditions in the maintenance of functional and structural integrity.

By *Remedial Hygiene* is meant the intelligent employment of hygienic principles, materials and conditions in the restoration of functional and structural integrity.

Prior to and at the time of the establishment of the *Hygienic System* and for some time thereafter, the medical professions of the world gave no attention to hygiene. There was not a medical college in the world that had a chair of hygiene and it was not until near the close of the nineteenth century that any medical college ever established a chair of hygiene. In the way that is characteristic of "medicine," they began immediately to pervert and misapply the little hygiene they adopted and now make use of. For this reason, although Trall, Graham, Jennings, etc., spoke of *Hygiene* and the *Hygienic System*, we of today designate the system by the phrase

Natural Hygiene to distinguish it from the spurious hygiene of the medical schools. At this writing I do not know who first used the phrase *Natural Hygiene*. I coined the phrase several years ago without being aware, at the time, that others had used it. H. Lahmann of Germany entitled one of his works on diet *Natural Hygiene*. This, of course, had no reference to the wider meaning of the phrase as we employ it.

The principles and practices of *Natural Hygiene* are founded in the truths of physiology and biology and are sustained and perfected by all the valuable discoveries which mark the modern development of the biological sciences. It is the function of *Natural Hygiene* to respect the laws of life and to defer to the inherent powers of the living organism. *Hygiene* embraces and seeks to embrace the truths in nature and seeks to learn their proper application to the preservation and restoration of health. Thus it seeks to embody a correct science and art of care of both the well and the sick. It relies, therefore, upon no favorable accident to result from maneuvering the body with materials and conditions that have no normal relation to life. It turns physiology to the uses of body-care and is exultant at the range of means to it from this source, which are competent to secure the highest physical and mental good.

Natural Hygiene seeks to understand exactly and precisely the nature and influence of air, water, food, light, exercise, rest, sleep, temperature, clothing, housing, noise, the emotions, etc., and to apply the knowledge of these things in the processes of living, acting ever and always in proper relation to the laws of life. By this means we seek not alone to preserve health, but also to restore it if we have been so unwise as to impair it. It is a comprehensive treatment of the whole problem of living in terms of a valid standard; a synthesis of interrelated and correlated living factors productive of a pattern of living normal for human beings; one that covers the total needs of man and not merely one or two of his requirements. *Natural Hygiene* is a way of life, not a plan of treatment; it is a mode of living; not a system of *therapeutics*. Thus understood, the phrase *Natural Hygiene* acquires a real significance, at once novel, startling, intense and delicious.

To say that *Hygiene* is not a system of *therapeutics* is not to ally it with Christian Science, which denies the existence of pain, disease, death, matter, etc., and forbids its members to study hygiene. Theoretically and practically *Hygiene* is both naturalistic and rationalistic, rather than spiritualistic in its approach to health, disease and healing. *Hygiene* is not to be confused with any of the systems of “faith healing,” for its employment of materials and conditions that are physical and mental and its reliance upon natural law and natural processes definitely takes it outside the realm of the systems of “faith healing.” All of this will be made fully clear in Vol. VI of this

series.

In the light of the foregoing, let us attempt a more accurate definition of *Natural Hygiene*. It is that branch of biology which investigates the conditions upon which health depends, and the means by which it may be sustained in all its virtue and purity while we have it, and restored when it has been impaired. Before physiology was investigated the rules of hygiene, so far as they were valid, were instinctive, traditional and empirical. Today these rules, so far as they are valid, are based on the growing knowledge of physiology. It is our contention that if we had a perfect knowledge of the laws of life and applied them in a perfect system of *Hygiene*, disease would be impossible. In this sense *Hygiene* is the art of intelligent or healthful living. ’

The system built by Jennings, Trall, Graham and their contemporaries and successors, they called the *Hygienic System or Hygieotherapy*. Trall became skeptical of the value of drugs and the bleeding practices then in vogue, and of the correctness of medical principles, while still a medical student. Jennings was forced to abandon the medical doctrines and practices he had been taught, after years of practice, by experiences that revealed the incorrectness of the theories and the evils of the practices. These two men worked independently. While their theories differed in some particulars, as did their practices, fundamentally, both their theories and practices agreed. This becomes all the more plain when one reads their long-drawn-out debate of the subject. Graham, whose work, also, was begun independently, was influenced by these men and in turn, influenced them, converting Jennings to vegetarianism.

These men agreed to call the principles and methods they launched, the *Hygienic System*. In the Jennings-Trall debate, which ran serially in Trall’s magazine during 1864, Jennings says of Trall: “he only needs to understand the hygienic theory a little ‘more perfectly’ to place him on a vantage ground where he can chase a thousand Allopaths, and two can put ten thousand of them to flight.”

In a biographical sketch of Trall, which appeared in the *Herald of Health* for July 1864, are these words: “His writings and books have placed him at the head of a new system, which he has entitled the ‘Hygienic’ or ‘Hygieo-Therapeutic’ — repudiating the term ‘Hydrotherapy,’ as expressive of only a single one of its remedial appliances.” His school founded in 1852, as the *Hydropathic and Physiological School*, was chartered in 1857 under the name of the *New York Hygieo-Therapeutic College*. This biographical sketch says: “Dr. Trall may justly claim to be the father of the literature of the Hygienic Medical System, and the chief exponent and, indeed, the discoverer of its philosophy; and his writings are accepted as standard if not authoritative in this

country and in Europe.”

In 1872, a small book by Trall was published under the title, *The Hygienic System*, in which he defined the *Hygienic System* to be the “treatment of disease by hygienic agencies.” In this booklet he listed as “Nature’s Materia Medica,” the following materials and forces: “air, light, temperature, electricity, magnetism, exercise, rest, food, drink, bathing, sleep, clothing, mental influences, and mechanical or surgical appliances.” He explained that “truly remedial agents are materials and influences which have *normal* relations to the vital organs, and not drugs, or poisons, whose relations are *abnormal* and anti-vital” and added that, “the true Healing Art consists in supplying the living system with whatever of the above it can *use* under the circumstances, and not in the administration of poisons which it must *resist* or *expel*.”

The evolution of the magazine also marks the evolution of Trall from a Hydropath, which he became when he gave up drugs, to a *Hygienist*. Originally started by Dr. Joel Shew, in 1845, as *The Hydropathic Journal and Herald of Reforms*, as it became more and more *Hygienic* the need for a change of name was recognized and discussed. Finally, in 1862, the name was changed to the *Hygienic Teacher*, then, in 1863 it was again changed to *The Herald of Health*. When in 1865 Trall sold the magazine to two of his graduates and trouble between Trall and the new owners followed, he started a new magazine under the title *The Gospel of Health*, January, 1867.

The medical historian, Shryock says, “During the seventies and the ensuing decades many of the ‘cures’ (institutions) were established practicing what became known as the ‘Hygienic System.’ Most of these were located in towns of the East and Middle West, and a considerable number owed their origin to men trained by Trall.” — *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, Sept. 1931.

Drs. Jackson, Densmore, Walter, Page, and others accepted and employed the term, *Hygienic System*. For example, in his *How to Treat the Sick Without Medicine* (1868) Dr. James C. Jackson uses the term, “hygieo-therapeutic agencies” and calls himself a “hygienic physician.” Doctor Walter uses the term “The Hygienic School,” although he seems to have preferred the terms, “nutritive cure” and “nutritive system.” In 1877 he began the publication of a magazine under the title *The Laws of Health* in which he advertised his sanatorium, at Wernersville, Pa., as one that “relies for its success upon proper hygienic conditions in connection with special application of the best hygienic agencies.” Another magazine of the period, *The Science of Health*, was “an independent health monthly which teaches the Laws by which Health is preserved and Disease eradicated, and Life prolonged, on Hygienic

Principles. Its agencies are: Food, Drink, Air, Exercise, Light, Temperature, Sleep, Rest, Bathing, Clothing, Electricity, Right Social Relations, Mental Influences.” I am unable to locate any reference to the Hygienic System in the works which I have of Dr. Dio Lewis; he does refer to “Natural Methods” and he made almost exclusive use of Hygienic or Natural Methods and placed practically no reliance in hydrotherapy.

In his *How Nature Cures*, Dr. Densmore, repeatedly refers to hygienists and “hygienic physicians who use no medicine whatever,” and refers to *Hygienists* as “Physicians of the reform school.” Dr. Page, who was born in 1840; in his *True Health Art* (1906) poses “genuine hygienic treatment” opposite that of the “anti-Naturalists” and defines the “hygienic physician” as one who “knows how to apply all known hygienic agencies,” and speaks of the necessity of “having the hygienic instead of the unhygienic physician in attendance” upon the sick.

While Dr. Tilden more often used the phrase the *Toxemia System*, he did frequently refer to his work as *Hygienic*, which it was in almost all particulars. In the earlier period of his writings, especially in his magazine, *The Stuffed Club*, he often referred to Trall and even quoted from him occasionally, but as time passed he discontinued referring to anybody back of himself, so that the great majority of his readers came to believe that the whole system originated with him.

The *Hygienic System* was not merely a historical phenomenon of interest to historians; it was the bursting forth of life itself. It arose to meet a need of the people and it has continued and will continue to exist because the need is ever-present. Then, as now, the people were wandering in a wilderness of ignorance and superstition. They asked for truth and the medical schools gave them sterile theories and fanciful hypotheses; they asked for bread and were given poisons. They lost confidence in the regular medical profession in particular and became convinced that the members of this profession were killing most of those who died, a conviction that is borne out by the facts.

But it should not be thought that the *Hygienic System* was readily accepted by all when it was first offered to the world. Opposed, denounced, ridiculed, misrepresented and slandered by the medical profession, the white flour interests, the tobacco, liquor, tea, and coffee interests, the bakers and butchers, and all of those who saw in it a threat to their purses, the people were misled in great numbers. Juvenal declared: “There is no darkness but ignorance,” but here we had large groups spreading the worst kind of ignorance, that of misinformation, in an effort to prevent the people from receiving the truth about Health, Disease and Healing. There are, of course, at all times, great numbers of people who are willfully ignorant; this is to say, they are satisfied with their ignorance and refuse to investigate any new truth that is offered

them, or to accept any truth that conflicts with their ignorance and misinformation.

Trall wrote in *Science of Health*, July 1872, that “Doctrines which are radical in theory, revolutionary in practice, and subversive of established usages and existing interests, must of necessity be opposed by the learned and refused by the illiterate. Before they can be generally accepted, or fairly investigated, the public mind must be re-educated. And it is a thousand times more difficult to dispossess it of its engrained errors and life-long prejudices than to educate it truthfully. Health Reform has experienced the adverse influences of all progressive movements; yet it has made more rapid strides towards universal recognition than any other great reformatory movement has done in the history of the world, in the same period of time.”

In this same editorial he pointed out that “it is less than half a century since Dr. Jennings demonstrated by actual and extensive experiment, that all diseases can be treated more successfully without medicines than with them.” Then, coming to the actual establishment of the *Hygienic System* as a distinct school, with its own college, he says ‘the lectures and writings of Graham and Alcott had prepared many minds for investigating the new medical system.’ It is not out of place to mention at this time that the number of its periodicals was great and the flow of books on the subject was phenomenal. The movement really made great inroads upon the popular drug system, which Trall said, in this same editorial, was “divided into several schools,” and “has existed for nearly three thousand years.” A great popular following was soon recruited and it continued to grow until it threatened the very existence of the drug schools, a fact attested by medical historians.

Few readers, perhaps, fully understand the difficulties that attend the effort to introduce new, radical and revolutionary principles to the world. It is not easy for men to discard ingrained errors and life-long prepossessions, nor to comprehend truths which conflict with the accumulated prejudices of three thousand years. Very few individuals, once professionally educated, can ever be wholly divested of the theories of their schools. If the principles of the *Hygienic School* are (true, they overthrow all the teachings and destroy all of the practices of the medical schools and render useless all of their great libraries of accumulated lore. More than this, their general acceptance will destroy a number of great commercial enterprises that are among the most profitable enterprises of the present era.

The truths announced by the *Hygienists* annoyingly disturbed those whose financial interests these truths threatened, the willfully ignorant and those smug intellectuals who are unwilling to expend the effort necessary to examine anything new and strange, but who are ever too ready to pronounce the innovator a leader in byways of error, hoping thereby to dispose of him. In spite of the opposition and

misrepresentations of these groups many people did hear and heed the voice of *Hygiene* as it thundered out across the nation, reverberating through the hills and hollows and entering through the doors and windows of the villages and towns. The time of *Hygiene* had come and nothing could stop it.

Hygiene brings with it changes and the old order ever resists the changes that are required by the new. The fundamental change that is necessary will prove revolutionary, destroying vast fortunes of invested wealth, scrapping whole libraries of medical literature, and changing our whole manner of thinking about health, disease and healing. Such a revolution will be resisted to the last drop of energy by those whose vested interests are threatened.

The set-back received by the movement from the Civil War, the panic of the seventies, the failure of the college and the death of Trall was long in being recovered from. Indeed, the movement was almost in a state of suspended animation from the eighties of the last century till the twenties of this. There were workers and publications, but no concerted effort on the part of the workers. Every man was working as a free lance. Dr. Susanna W. Dodds did establish another college a few years after the death of Trall, but it was short lived.

The man or woman, interested in the truth, come what may, will not be deterred from candidly and fully investigating *Natural Hygiene* because vested interests persist in opposing it, slandering it, misrepresenting it and decrying it from the rooftops. A genuine lover of truth possesses, as an inseparable and essential characteristic, a willingness to be governed by it implicitly and to follow it, both theoretically and practically, wheresoever it may lead, although, this may be done only at the complete sacrifice of preconceived and most sacredly cherished notions, and even his good opinion of himself and of his church and his political party.

When the devotees of any dogma or creed, whether in religion, politics, medicine, or science, shrink from the light of thorough searching and impartial investigation, they manifest a latent consciousness of the weakness or error of their dogma or creed, and an apprehension that the light of clearly unfolded truth will reveal its deformity and untenableness. The opposition of these weaklings may retard, it cannot prevent the march of truth.

It is an unfortunate fact that after the schooling process has hermetically sealed the mind of the student, there is little possibility of a new thought ever expressing itself or of one gaining entrance through the carapace with which the "educated" mind surrounds itself. Until people learn how to learn and cease to meet every new and novel proposition with piddling criticism or a wrangling spirit of controversy, the advance of new knowledge must continue to be slow and disheartening. Nevertheless,

Hygiene is definitely on the march and the army of its adherents increases in numbers almost daily.

There are, however, many prejudices to overcome, much ignorance to supplant and great misunderstanding to dispel. Today there is greater need than in the days of Graham and Trall for the spread of a knowledge of *Natural Hygiene*; for, today, the forces of commercialism are, more than ever, poisoning the people in a thousand ways and ruining the people's food supplies in ways that our grandfathers never dreamed of. The medical profession, armed with the most destructive and diabolical weapons in its history, now seeks power to regiment the conduct of the people, canalize their thinking, and outlaw every truant idea that conflicts with its infallible dogmas, and is forgoing new creeds of repression and suppression, under the specious pretense of emancipating us from our bondage to disease. Today, the medical profession, as an institution, and the physician as an individual, occupies the place in our lives that was filled by the church and the priest in the Middle Ages, and these modern counterparts of the Medieval tyranny are every bit as hungry for power, as ruthless in their exercise of it, and as certain of their own infallibility as was the priest and the arch-bishop. It is evident to all who have watched their drive for power that they will stoop to anything and stop at nothing in their effort to gain control over the life of the people.

I. Cells and Their Environment

The body is an assemblage of correlated organs and parts, each working for the good of the whole. Each organ and part is composed of tissues while the tissues are made up of cells. The unit of structure of which every living thing, plant or animal, is composed is known as a cell. What the bricks are to the house, the cells are to a plant or animal. Just as a pile of sand is composed of millions of grains of sand, so are living bodies composed of millions of tiny cells. Every blade of grass, every flower, tree, bird, worm, animal and man is built of cells.

A cell is a microscopic bit of transparent, jelly-like material called protoplasm. A cell is not merely a speck of protoplasm. It has structure and its various structures serve different functions. Before proceeding to a more detailed description of the cell, perhaps we can give you a better understanding of what is meant by this term by referring to a little being that has only one cell. That such minute beings exist can easily be seen by the aid of the microscope.

The amoeba is a colorless, single-celled, jelly-like protoplasmic organism found in sea and fresh water. It is constantly undergoing changes of form, and nourishing itself from surrounding objects. It can be easily found in mud and decaying vegetation in pools of water. The amoeba is the lowest type of cell life. It swims about in the water and nourishes itself with the food found there. It reproduces itself by division. It grows until it reaches a certain size then divides into two. There are, then, two amoebae which repeat the process of growth and division with the result that we have four of them. The four become eight, the eight become sixteen, and so on.

The amoeba is so small that a thousand of them placed in a row would hardly reach an inch. It possesses no head, arms, legs or mouth and appears, when still, to be merely a lump of jelly. But it can push out any part of its body as a foot, and then by rolling its body into the foot is able to move slowly along. It can put out any part of the body as an arm and gather in a speck of food, or can make a mouth by drawing in some part of its body and closing around the food. Having no lungs, it breathes with the surface of its body. Any part of an amoeba can do anything that any other part can do.

The human body is a community of cells and may be compared to a community of people. The amoeba must do all of its work for itself but the cells in man's body work for each other. The cells have their work divided so that, instead of each cell having to do everything for itself, as the amoeba, we have different kinds of cells to do different work. Under such an arrangement the cell can do that work in which it specializes better and more efficiently.

The cells composing an animal body are similar to, though more complex than the amoeba. All cells composing the body of any animal are of common descent, but they have taken on widely different characters and functions, this being made necessary by the conditions under which they are to exist. The amoeba, leading an independent existence, must perform all the activities essential to its existence—preparation of crude food, locomotion, etc. In the multicellular animal this is changed. The specialization which groups the cells of such an animal into a number of classes, each with definite work to perform, also, entails the dependence of each class upon the other. While the amoeba is self-sufficient the cells of the animal cannot continue to live under ordinary circumstances if separated from the body.

The association of cells into an organism necessitates the formation of special structures, *organs*, to perform special work and this in turn necessitates the assumption of special functions by the cells making up the various structures. Special function, as distinguished from the common or fundamental functions of cells, is the power to perform a special work in the body. Special functions are those which are not common to all cells and are not essential to the life of the cell *per se*, but are essential to the life of the organism. Special function varies greatly for the different cells, some as the bone cells serving as supports for other structures; others like the skin cells as protectors; some, like the kidney cells excrete waste matter; some of the liver cells secrete bile, others store up glycogen, etc. Fundamental functions are those that are common to all cells alike and are essential to the life of the cell *per se*.

When cells are thus massed, as in the body of a worm, the situation of the cell differs much from that of the cell leading an independent existence. Its environment is made up largely of other associated cells. Comparatively few are in direct contact with the outside world, the greater portion being submerged among their brothers. They are shut in from food supplies, from the oxygen of the air and from water. A cell so situated would soon perish, were no special provisions made for its needs; they are consequently dependent upon each other.

The cells of the complex organism are differentiated and grouped to form various tissues; the tissues are grouped to form organs; while, the organs are grouped to form systems. The digestive system, for instance, is made up of the mouth, teeth and glands of the mouth, esophagus, stomach, intestine, colon, liver and pancreas, and the glands of the stomach and intestine. Systems are grouped to form organisms.

An organism is an entity capable of vital purposive activity. The work of each part has a vital relation to the work of other parts. In the differentiating process by which tissues and organs are produced there is integration so that the body remains a unit.

Cells forming the bodies of the higher animals are not capable of independent existence under ordinary circumstances because of their specialized character. Once the germ cells of the developing embryo become differentiated they are incapable of returning to their former undifferentiated or germ-cell state. This is to say, muscle cells, when once they have become such, can never be anything other than muscle cells. To borrow from Delafield and Prudden, *Text-book of Pathology*, “when differentiation has advanced so that such distinct types of tissue have been formed as connective tissue, epithelium, muscle, nerve, these do not again merge through metaplasia. There is no evidence that mesoblastic tissues can be converted into those of epiblastic or hypoblastic type, or vice versa.” Once cells have been differentiated and dedicated to a particular function, they can never become another and distinct type of cell with other and different functions. Therefore their dependence upon the body and their helplessness when separated from it.

Under ordinary circumstances the amoeba is supposed not to die. Barring death by violence, poisoning or starvation it is supposed to go on dividing and redividing forever. Conditionally it is supposed to be possessed of everlasting life. What are the conditions upon which life depends? So far as these are discoverable they are: appropriate food, water and oxygen, proper temperature and freedom from poisoning and violence. We might say its life depends upon a favorable or congenial environment, and that so long as its environment remains congenial it continues to function and reproduce.

In experimenting, in the laboratory with pieces of tissues from animals it has been found that, if these are washed clean each day and supplied with fresh nutrient media, they are able to live indefinitely. They grow and reproduce, old cells even regenerating and becoming young again. They do not seem to grow old in the sense that their vitality becomes diminished. Their life and health depend upon the medium in which they live and upon its being continually renewed.

If cells that are kept clean and properly nourished never grow old in the sense that they lose their vitality, and in the human body there are organs and functions that, when normal, completely rid the body of waste and toxins; and another process that, when normal, keeps the cells supplied with a fresh supply of nutrient material, what impairs these organs and functions so that the cells do grow old, do lose their vitality and die. It is assumed by some biologists that this impairment is a necessary result of the community action of the cells of the body.

A certain fact of common observation which has been denominated *The Law of the Cell* has been formulated in these words: “Every cell in the body will continue to perform the functions for which it was designed throughout its entire life cycle

provided its environment remains congenial to it."

The tissues used in laboratory experiments are supplied their nutrient media and have their waste washed away by the experimenter. He also supplies them with the requisite warmth. The human body is adequately equipped with special organs the functions of which it is to keep the cells supplied at all times with food, water, oxygen, warmth and to carry away from the cells and cast out of the body all waste and poisons that form therein or that gain admittance from without. That the normal organism is fully capable of supplying its cells with these conditions of continued active life requires no proof. There is no sound reason for believing that the cells of the body could not live as long and as well in the body as in the test-tube of the scientist if the functions of life are not impaired.

The organs composing the animal body make the medium in which its cells live. The body is also capable within reasonable limits of regulating and maintaining its temperature at the desired point. Such bodies are equipped with organs whose duty it is to take crude food substances from the surrounding environment and prepare it for use by the cells. Other organs carry it to and from the cells. Other groups of organs eliminate from the body or from this medium which bathes its cells in a continuously flowing stream, all the waste and poisons that have been formed by the activities and breaking down of the cells, or which have gained an entrance into the body from without.

The cells of the body require, if they are to continue to live, grow and reproduce, proper nutrition, adequate drainage, a suitable temperature, and protection from violence. The organs of the body are capable of replacing, by growth and reproduction, such as they have been observed to undergo for the scientist, in the test tube, all worn out and broken down cells, while the body is capable of removing and expelling the injured or dead cells. The stability and integrity of structure and function, displayed by the living organism, is maintained by the continual formation of new cells and cell products to supplant the old and outworn ones. It is by their powers of assimilation and self-maintenance that they maintain their condition in the face of the changes to which they are subjected by external conditions.

Heretofore we have attempted to interpret these laboratory experiences to favor extreme longevity in man. This has been a great mistake; for, adult cells will not grow in tissue cultures unless they are fed with embryo juice and this causes them immediately to revert to their primitive state and reproduce themselves continuously as in germ. We cannot feed embryo juice to the cells of the body and it would probably prove disastrous if we could.

Cells in the laboratory are killed by starvation and by poisoning. Why assume that

their death in the body is due to other causes? The uneliminated products of metabolism, plus the breaking down of cells in disease, plus toxins absorbed from without, are as capable of destroying cells in the body as in the scientist's test tube. Drugs, serums, vaccines, anti-toxins, etc., that are taken into the body, in any manner, for any purpose, kill cells and cripple organs. Starvation of the cells resulting from eating denatured food or from impaired digestion and assimilation is capable of killing cells in the body.

The processes of life are carried on ideally only in a nutritive medium which is in a state of solution, life being possible to cells only when their nourishment is in liquid form so they can assimilate it. The amoeba, as was previously stated, lives in water or substances containing liquid. The cells composing both plant and animal bodies likewise require a liquid medium in which to live.

In all the larger forms there is a moving liquid medium which flows incessantly. In animals this medium is known as the blood and lymph, in plants as sap. This medium bathes all the living cells in the body and acts as a common carrier, supplying them with food and oxygen and removing their wastes. In the higher animals the lymph only comes in direct contact with the majority of the cells. From this they draw their needful supplies of food and oxygen and into it they discharge their waste. The resources of the lymph at any point are very limited and are replenished constantly from the blood stream which passes close by in rapid movement in vessels whose thin delicate walls permit the passage of material both ways. The blood exchanges its fresh oxygen which it has just brought from the lungs for the carbon dioxide from the lymph. It then carries the carbon dioxide to the lungs and exchanges this for more oxygen. At the same time it exchanges fresh food for the waste of the cells and carries these wastes to the organs of elimination for excretion.

Just as the amoeba appropriates food and oxygen from the water or slime in which it lives and moves and has its being and excretes its waste into this same water or slime, so the cells composing the organs of the animal body appropriate food from the lymph in which they live and "move" and have their being, and excrete into this same lymph their waste.

Life, in a complex organism, such as the human body, depends upon *nutrition*, *drainage* and *innervation*. Let us glance at each of these.

Nutrition: The living thing grows, reproduces and multiplies its parts and extends itself by this repetition. To effect this it selects from matter in contact such elements as it has the capacity to arrange as parts of its own structure, and as promptly rejects and refuses all others; a necessary condition to the maintenance of its vital integrity. In the plant or animal, or wherever vitality reigns, assimilation and growth and refusal

and rejection are its constant actions, and the energy of these acts must bear a constant relation to each other; for the vital endowment equally seeks its own welfare in either act. This process of self-formation from dissimilar materials which is wholly peculiar to living things, and, without which none could exist, is by appropriation and transformation. Collectively this is called nutrition.

Nutrition is the digestion, absorption, assimilation and disassimilation of food, water and oxygen. It is the sum of the processes concerned in maintaining the normal condition of the cell and includes growth and repair. So long as this is adequately accomplished, the cells and the tissues which they form are able to perform their functions and to exhibit their own characteristic activities, to develop and maintain themselves. Development is the process by which each organ of a living body is first formed; or by which one which is already incompletely formed, is so changed in form and structure as to be fitted for the functions for which it is designed. Growth, which concurs with development and continues after it, is properly, the normal increase of the size of a part by the insertion or super-addition of materials similar to those of which it already consists. In growth proper, no change of form, structure or function occurs. Parts only increase in weight and size, and if they acquire more power, it is power of the same kind as before exercised. Maintenance is the process of repair and reconstruction by which the worn out or injured parts of a tissue or organ are replaced. Development, growth and maintenance are all accomplished by cell proliferation and, in the case of development, differentiation. What produces the differentiation is not known, probably never will be known, but it is known that the power that determines the development of the embryo from the germ or ovum to the nine months infant is identical with that which is the source of the constant preservation and renovation and of the development and growth of the individual after birth.

Drainage is the process by which waste and toxic matter is carried away from the cells and tissues, by the blood and the lymph, and carried to the excretory organs for elimination. It involves, also the detoxifying processes by which toxins are neutralized, the processes of excretion and the acts of voiding. These processes are commonly regarded as parts of the general process of nutrition and are separated for convenience.

Innervation is the constant and regular supply of nerve energy or nerve impulse to the organs and tissues of the body. If the nerve supply to an organ or part is destroyed it loses sensation and motion and perhaps it atrophies but it does not necessarily die. From this it becomes apparent that organic function is not possible in the absence of the nerve supply. If nutrition and drainage are cut off from an organ or

part its death is only a matter of minutes. This may serve to show the relative importance of nutrition and drainage as compared with innervation, but it must not be lost sight of that nutrition and drainage in the higher animals is wholly a matter of organic function and that under all ordinary circumstances normal organic function is capable of maintaining nutrition and drainage up to the standard demanded by healthy life. The preparation of food, the intake of air and water and their distribution to the cells and the removal of cellular waste and toxins are all accomplished by organs, the food, air and water being passive substances under the control of these organs.

The tremendous importance of the nervous system and the vital organs through which it carries on the functions of animal life is thus made manifest. For it must be borne in mind that such is the interdependence of the various parts of the body upon each other that serious injury to one speedily affects the others. Nutrition and drainage are as essential to the nervous structures as to the muscular or glandular, etc. Oxygen is required by the nerves as well as by the muscles. If from any cause the lungs are damaged and oxygenation of the blood impaired the whole system suffers. If breathing is stopped entirely for a few minutes death of the whole body is the result. Damage to the heart suspending circulation results in somatic death. Yet the sole work of the heart and its accessory organs, the vascular system, is to distribute to the various parts of the body the nutritive material. Death comes because nutrition and drainage have ceased. Destruction or serious impairment of the kidneys, for instance, soon results in death from poisoning as these fail to relieve the blood of its load of toxins before its return to the tissues. The toxins soon accumulate in such quantities as to overwhelm the cells and stop all function.

Just as life, growth and reproduction, in the tissues used in the experiments, referred to in a previous paragraph, is a master drama of nutrition, drainage, and warmth under control of the scientist in the laboratory, so life, growth and reproduction, of the tissues in the body, is a master drama, of nutrition, drainage and warmth under the control of the nervous system and the organs by means of which it accomplishes its work. If innervation is entirely suspended it results in a train of pathological phenomena included under the term death. Respiration and circulation, and through the latter, nutrition and drainage, are suspended suddenly, if the cause is applied with sufficient force. If the cause is applied more gradually so that innervation is gradually suspended, in a few days, it may be, or in a few years it may give rise to any one or a number of the many pathological phenomena that have been classified as disease and given separate names. Given perfect nutrition, perfect drainage and adequate nerve energy the organism will maintain itself in perfect health for an indefinite time. Any interference with either of these three requirements

must inevitably react to the detriment and injury of the body. All of these many and varied mechanisms have one prime object in common and this is the preservation of the constant condition of the internal state.

What the biotic or organic force is we may never know, but we do know that it is not independent of certain conditions. The necessary elementary combinations of the vital principle may be present and yet not manifest life. This dormant state of life, as seen in the impregnated germ of the egg before incubation or in the seed before germination, is not to be mistaken for death. The manifestations of life begin only under the influence of certain necessary conditions, such as warmth, air, moisture, etc., and these conditions never cease to be necessary for the continued manifestation of life. Whether life is passive or active depends upon the conditions under which it operates. The ova of animals and seed of plants remain in a state of “germ” only so long as they are maintained perfectly quiescent and beyond the influence of the external factors essential to their development. They remain capable of development and maintain their creative force, but this force is latent or dormant. It passes from passivity to activity only under certain essential conditions. The ova of some animals will, if withdrawn from the inclemency of the atmosphere and warmth, retain their latent capability of development for a long period. Thus the productive powers of the ova of many insects are preserved throughout the winter. The same is true of the germinating power of seeds. Under favorable conditions this power is preserved in the seeds of many plants for many years. As soon, however as these are subjected to the external influences necessary to call this inherent power into activity, the germ, if still capable of development, becomes developed; if not still capable of development, putrefaction ensues.

If those conditions that called the passive life of the seed or ovum into activity are withdrawn, development and growth cease and either speedy death ensues, or else the plant or animal falls into a state of suspended animation. These form the necessary materials and influences with which growth and repair or maintenance as well as elimination are carried on.

After the young bird or reptile is hatched or after the young mammal is born, they require exercise or voluntary muscular activity, and rest and sleep. After birth, also, their minds become active, and it is then that mental influence begins to affect function. The young child under these same conditions, supplied with these same external factors and refraining from indulgences in harmful habits, such as animals do not indulge in, will likewise develop into a sturdy, well formed human being.

Thus we see that life is dependent upon certain external influences and conditions—heat, light, air, water, food—and that under the influence of and by the use of these

the organic being is developed from the germ and by the use of these same forces, influences and materials, it carries on its processes and functions, repairs and maintains its part, defends and reproduces itself.

The essential conditions of life are, therefore, seen to be very simple. They are usually within easy reach of the rudest savage, though often out of reach of his boasted civilized brother. If there is a lack of any of these essentials of life or an over abundance of any of them, or if harmful habits are permitted to interfere with the processes of life, disease is the result.

Orthobionomists differentiate between natural hygiene, which consists of the use of those natural conditions upon which active life depends; and, that pseudo-hygiene promulgated by the sons of Chiron, which consists chiefly in a germ chase. *Natural Hygiene*, for instance, demands ordinary cleanliness, while medical hygiene demands sterility as secured by extreme heat, antiseptics, etc. *Natural Hygiene* has proved adequate to the needs of plant and animal life in all ages of the world, in all climates and at all seasons. Medical hygiene has not proved to be dependable; indeed, it has often worked incalculable harm.

Bionomy deals with the laws of life. Bionomics deals with the adaptation of organisms to their environment. Orthodox biologists make no distinction between healthful adaptation and pathological adaptation. A distinction should be made between animate and inanimate environment and between that which is friendly and sustains us, and that which is inimical and injures us. I have coined the term *Orthobionomics* to designate the correct adaptation of life and environment. Mal-bionomic adaptation is unhealthful adaptation and results in degeneration.

The body possesses the ability of adjusting itself to unnatural or anti-vital conditions, if given sufficient time. If we stick to a practice or influence long enough the very laws of nature seem to change to fit the abnormal condition; and, although the experiment may kill a million or more people, shorten the lives of millions more and dethrone the mental and moral controls of many more, we persist in seeing the merely apparent change of laws and ignore the real damage behind the appearance.

The penalty for every violated law must be paid, and so long as we continue to violate it, just so long will nature continue to exact her price. The real penalty is the difference between what man is and what he might have been.

In repairing a house the carpenter uses the same materials, tools and methods that were employed in its construction. No man attempts to repair a house built of lumber, with brick and mortar. He employs a saw and hammer and other tools for working with wood and not a trowel and other tools for working with brick and mortar. Carpenters are employed to repair wooden structures and masons to repair stone

structures. Any other methods and materials of repair would not be tolerated by an intelligent owner of a house.

The process of repair in houses is the same as the process of construction. So it is in all other structures, in all machines, etc. We do not even think that it could be otherwise. We use less intelligence in dealing with the human body. For food we substitute poisonous drugs; for rest we use stimulation; for cleanliness we substitute antiseptic-sterility; in the place of sunlight we employ electric lights of all colors and hues; pure water is rejected for coffee, tea, soda fountain slops or mineral waters. No man expects his house to be repaired instantly but he wants instantaneous *cures*. He knows that if the workmen are rushed they do not do as good or as neat work and his house will not be substantial or beautiful; but he wants the *curative* process forced forward at a rapid rate. He knows that the slow growth of the oak or hickory is more enduring than the rapid growth of the mushroom, but he thinks he can force rapid healing and still have an enduring structure.

II. The Mystery of Life

With all of its wonders and mysteries, inorganic nature is but the platform upon which rises the far more diversified and majestic superstructure of life. In the realm of life, new forces come into play, compared with which, in the marvelous character of their workings and the strangeness of their results, all others appear simple and plain.

Scientists have desired and sought to reduce all knowledge of nature to terms of one kind, so that instead of speaking of an inanimate world and a world of life, they may be able to view all things as one system under the domain of purely physical laws. But as it has been obviously impossible to explain away life, so that it may be reduced to the level of lifeless matter, they have adopted the alternative proposition that *all matter is alive*.

From Aristotle to the present, no one has been able to formulate a satisfactory definition of life. David Dietz tells us in his *Story of Science* that many “authorities” consider the following definition by G. H. Lewes to be the best yet devised: “Life is a series of definite and successive changes both in structure and in composition, which take place in an individual without destroying its identity.” This is not a definition; it is merely a general and vague statement of some of the things that take place in the life-time of the individual, but it fails to account for the individual and for the cause of the changes and the preservation of identity.

Prof. Tyndall pictured life as “immanent everywhere” and added that he was “not anxious to shut out the idea that the life here spoken of, may be but a subordinate part and function of a higher life as the living moving blood is subordinate to the living man.” This view cannot be accepted by the devotees of modern science who hold, not only that there is no life *per se*, but also, that, there is no “higher life.” Even Tyndall elsewhere defined life as interaction between an organism and its environment. Strangely, they all start with an organism! To get the massive trunk of the full grown oak tree, with its swaying branches, whispering leaves and hungry roots, from an acorn by means of the interaction of soil, sunlight, heat and water, is a form of necromancy that not even the ancients dreamed of. To say, as Tyndall did, that this interaction is life is to stultify human reason.

The ancient theory that life arose spontaneously from non-living matter (*abiogenesis*) has been thoroughly discredited and most biologists of today pretend no longer to believe in the possibility of spontaneous generation. *Biogenesis*, or the origin of living beings only from pre-existing living organisms, is now a well established fact of science, although a long, hard struggle was necessary to establish it. Biologists say, however, that “there is no such thing as life in the abstract. All we

have are the living things. Life has absolutely no existence apart from concrete living organisms. This is to say, there is no entity called life.”

In some unknown manner, the first living organism came into existence. As there was no life prior to the coming into being of the first “concrete living organism,” most biologists only pretend to have abandoned the ancient hypothesis of *abiogenesis* or *spontaneous generation*. They simply assume that it *must* have taken place sometime, somewhere, somehow. It is an absolute necessity of modern biological theory, for inevitably, there comes a time, in tracing living organisms backward, when there was no living organism to give rise to offspring. Here the principle of living organisms only from living organisms breaks down for the very reason that any existence of life in the abstract is summarily rejected.

Maynard Shipley says: “In the gradual transition from non-living to living matter, an entirely new and peculiar type of energy — ‘biotic energy’ — emerges, which is not explicable merely on the grounds of increasing complexity of atomic structure. ‘We call things living because of the energy changes which they exhibit, and not because they are complex chemically or physically.’ A dead animal is just as *complex* as a living organism. What is missing is ‘biotic energy’ — the form of energy which gives rise to the distinctive energy — transformations ‘which we aggregate together under the term *life*.’ The recognition of this fact, however, does not commit us to the outworn doctrine of ‘vitalism’ or the Aristotelian ‘entelechy.’”

It will be seen, at a glance, that Mr. Shipley here assumes that *abiogenesis* did take place, although he provides no evidence that it does now occur; and it is obvious that if it ever occurred it was a physio-chemical process that could and should be repeated untold millions of times. Indeed, there would seem to be no reason why the chemist could not “create” living organisms in the laboratory. No amount of laboratory manipulation has ever been productive of even the simplest living organism.

It was at once be observed that ‘biotic’ is practically the Greek equivalent of the Latin ‘vital.’ Shipley runs from the plain implications of his description of what he and others call ‘biotic energy’ by saying: “modern science recognizes that not only different results may be obtained under different conditions, but that *absolutely new qualities* emerge at critical moments, both in the domain of chemistry and in the phenomena of biology. We talk now of *emergent evolution*.” Thus it is by “emergent evolution” that he proposes to secure his hypothetical “gradual transition from non-living to living matter.” *Emergent evolution* is the key to *spontaneous generation*. “Science” refuses to give up its superstitious belief in the origin of life from the lifeless, of the intelligent from the non-intelligent, of the conscious from the

unconscious, of the active from the inert, of something from nothing, or what amounts so the same thing, the greater from the lesser.

Like the fabled ostrich that hid from danger by burying its head in the sand, “science” buries its head in “biotic energy” and announces that “vitalism” is outworn. There is, in spite of the seeming identity of “biotic” with “vital” energy, a difference. Vitality was conceived of as a primary force, a force not derived from other forces and not transformable into them. “Biotic energy” is conceived of as an “absolutely new quality” that *emerges* under “different conditions.” It is derived from other forces and is transformable into them. It is a new superstition devised by the devotees of the boasted “scientific method” who refuse to accept the results of that method. The “scientific method” continues to refuse to give them *spontaneous generation*, but they are determined to have it in spite of all the evidence, experimental and otherwise, to the contrary. We will just have to let them play with “biotic energy” as an additive resultant of *emergent evolution* until its novelty wears off and they tire of their toy. These little boys must have a bright, shiny, new toy at frequent intervals to keep up their interest in their little rackets.

All living things arise only as children of other living things. No combination of matter has even been known to manifest life that had not been previously *vitalized* by some pre-existing life. No egg or seed was even known to be produced except by a living organism. Nothing living was ever known to be produced except by a prior living organism. Mere matter, by combination or separation, can produce nothing but mere matter.

The functions of nearly all of the organs of the body are now known, and the structures have been traced with the scalpel, and examined with the microscope, until lost in molecules or atoms beyond the power of vision, though aided by lenses which magnify our area a million times. But nothing has been discovered in the atoms and molecules that will explain the phenomena of living function. There are some who explain life as the result of peculiar structure, but these leave the structure unaccounted for. To confound life itself with one of its conditions is as absurd as to confound the moon with moonshine, because the former is essential to the latter.

Many efforts have been made to create living things artificially and success has repeatedly been announced. But when these “organic” creations of the chemists are submitted to the vital test, they fail. They will not do anything. They will not grow. They will not function. They will not repair themselves. They will not multiply. The only property they manifest is that of inertia which is the property of a dry stick or a lifeless stone. We are prone to think of the many things that man is able to do with matter and attribute all this to matter, leaving out of the formula the intelligent control

and intricate manipulations of matter by man himself.

Tissue culture in the laboratory and gland grafts, as well as the lowest forms of life, show that a nervous system and nervous energy are not essential to life and fundamental function. It seems to be primarily a means of control of function in a complex organism. Certain special or organic functions cease entirely with the loss of nervous activation, while the fundamental functions of life in the cell do not cease. Nerve force, or nervous impulse, is not, therefore, identical with life and, whatever may be true of vital force, nerve force is a variable quantity. It is generated, stored, expended and wasted just as electricity may be.

The nervous system is the chief coordinating apparatus of the body. Without nerve control, each organ would work in its own way, or not function at all, instead of assisting the other organs of the body in carrying on the functions of nutrition, respiration, circulation, excretion, etc.

Nerve energy may be saved and stored up, or it may be dissipated and lost. It is, apparently stored in the brain, spinal cord and the large nerve plexuses and centers in the body. It is probably generated within the body, although there are those who believe it to be absorbed from without. Nobody knows how or from whence it is received or generated.

If we admit the possibility of Tyndall's "higher life" we have a more rational starting point for our first living organisms than that provided by the totally discredited, but not abandoned theory of *spontaneous generation*. Graham, who employed the term *vitality* as synonymous with life said: "Vitality is not in the least degree the result of peculiar arrangements of matter,—but the peculiar arrangements of matter composing organic bodies, are always the results of vital action, and depend on vital power and action for their continuance; and hence living bodies not only derive their origin from pre-existing beings like themselves, but, also, in a perfect state, always possess faculties and powers by which vitality perpetuates itself in connection with organization, in the successive propagation of organized bodies."

Dietz re-affirms the fact of centuries of observation in these words: "so far as man has ever observed, living organisms arise only from other living organisms." All biologists agree with this, but nearly all of them believe that before there were any men to observe, one or more living organisms did arise spontaneously out of lifeless matter. Even Professor Thomas Henry Huxley, who said: "Life existed before organism and is its cause," believed in the primitive spontaneous generation of living forms from lifeless matter.

Graham pointed out that the "vital instincts" behaved as though directed by intelligence. Tilden held that physiology is "organized psychology." If this has any

meaning at all, it means that life is more than a physio-chemical episode. Prof. Eddington holds that mind is the first and most direct thing in our experience, all else being remote inference. Shall we say then, that, “an integrated organism functions by virtue of wisdom incarnated in its tissues?” If we answer this question in the affirmative, we must then ask: What is the origin, if it has an origin, of this wisdom and what is it connected with? What, in the other words, is it that is incarnated?

It is very true, as S. Greiner says in *Prelude to Sanity* that “the observer of the living process remains at all times outside its purview, so that his description of it has no relevance to the intrinsic wisdom of the body.” It is also true, as he says in this same book that “The body refuses to turn itself into a textbook; and if his scalpel force an entry into its sanctum, it guards its wisdom through dying. No matter how artful his larcenies and subtle his strategies, he cannot invade its precincts without first committing murder; and what he subsequently gleans from autopsies of the cadaver is not even a parody of that living organism.”

In 1930 Austin H. Clark of the U.S. National Museum, a biologist of note, wrote in his book *The New Evolution*, in which he presented his theory of *zoogenesis*: “those who study animals both in the field and in the laboratory soon become aware that no animal form can properly be understood from the facts revealed by the study of its structure and anatomy alone. An animal is something more than the sum total of the organic compounds, the secretions and the deposits that make up its body. There is something in addition to the tangible physical complex represented by its structure and anatomy.

“The bodily mechanism of every animal in life is operated and controlled by a mental mechanism which as yet, we are unable to explain in terms of physics and of chemistry. In each sort and kind of animal this mental mechanism takes the form of a definite complex peculiar to the species.

“The mental complexes are as much a part of the individuality of each species as are the tangible structures of the body. To base our conclusions upon a single set of characteristics and to dismiss others as irrelevant is simply to confess our inability to comprehend and to interpret the whole in its true relations.”

Here, again, life and mind are inseparably associated. One prominent biologist has remarked that if the amoeba were as large as a dog we would not hesitate to ascribe intelligence to its actions. Unfortunately we continue to refer to a cell as a speck of jelly-like substance—protoplasm—and every student of cytology knows that this is simply false.

We know protoplasm only as an individualized and highly organized structure. Always it is surrounded by a limiting insulatory envelope so that it constitutes a

physiological unit, whether it is a cell in a highly complex organism composed of many cells, or merely a single cell living an independent existence. Protoplasm is, in other words, a mere abstraction, having no existence apart from the cell. It is only in this individualized state that protoplasm may be said to live. Most of what the public reads and hears about *protoplasm* is sheer nonsense.

Biologists devote much space to discussions of protoplasm, *per se*, although no such thing is known. They are guilty of discussing a pure abstraction and investing it with properties or characteristics that belong only to living organisms. Metabolism, reproduction, irritability—these are seen in living organisms only and not in some abstract or undifferentiated, or unorganized, or lifeless protoplasm. Protoplasm does not reproduce itself—but living organisms do. Protoplasm does not carry on any metabolic processes, but living organisms do. Protoplasm is not irritable, but living organisms are. Protoplasm is seen only in cells, never apart from them, and cells are complex organisms.

Protoplasm does not make cells; cells make protoplasm. No protoplasm has ever been seen that was not the product of and part of a cell. No protoplasm was ever seen to produce a cell. Every cell is derived from a preceding cell. The old question: “which was first, the hen or the egg” has not definitely been solved. The problem of creation always has transcended the intelligence of man, and it is entirely probable that it always will do so. Which came first, structure or function? This is a question that has long been the subject of controversy in science. Some hold that structure determines function; others that function determines structure. So far as we know they have always co-existed and they vary simultaneously and concomitantly, or coetaneously. We know, too, that change in function and structure may be committant or successive effects of a common cause. Function without structure to function is inconceivable. Why can’t we let them continue to co-exist.

To define life as the sum-total of vital phenomena is not to account for the vital phenomena—it accounts for neither living structure nor living function. We are in the habit of saying, in the words of Cannon that “the integrity of the organism as a whole rests on the integrity of the individual elements, and the elements, in turn, are impotent and useless save as parts of the organized whole,” and while this is a fact of observation, it is but half a fact. Actually, when we make this statement, we are merely going around in a circle. The body depends on its parts, its parts depend on the body—they all depend on what? It is obvious that the controlling principle that originally integrated the parts into a unified whole and that maintains their integrity, is not resident either in the whole or in its parts, but transcends the organism.

There are phenomena which are characteristic of every kind of ‘living matter’

and which are known only in connection with ‘living matter,’ and which cease when the ‘living matter’ has died, and these phenomena, we must insist, are not to be confounded with merely chemical or physical phenomena, but must be classed as vital, no matter what the ultimate source of such activities may prove to be. A physiological order exists and requires recognition as differentiated from purely physio-chemical order. This leads to the necessity for discovering physiological or biological laws. As we advance in our studies of nature from the simple to the complex and to the increasingly complex, this is to say, as we attain new levels in our understanding of the phenomena of nature, we are compelled to formulate new laws to express and describe the orderly sequence of events in each of the levels of existence that we study. It is precisely because living organisms present features and activities that are not present in either physical or chemical phenomena that it is necessary to find and formulate laws of biology.

I am convinced that the phrase “living matter” is both incorrect and inaccurate. It is doubtful that matter is ever alive. We know life only in organized structures. Yet organization is not life, for we see dead organisms of the most complex nature. We should, I believe, speak of *living organisms*, not of *living matter*.

Pierre LeCompte Du Nouy, says: “Our science is not universal as yet and only governs inanimate matter. If we maintain our faith in science as far as inanimate matter is concerned—and there is no reason for us not to do so—there can be only one explanation for its failure, namely, that nature itself is not homogeneous, as we believed, and that there is a solution of continuity between inorganic matter and life which our actual science cannot account for. Thus we need not accuse science as a whole. It keeps all its values, as far as we are concerned, for everything that is not alive. Life, then, does not fit into the universal pattern we tried to build.”

Du Nouy has arrived, after many years of searching for a physico-chemical explanation of living phenomena, at about the same point arrived at by Professor Lionel Beale a number of years ago, when he declared that “an absolute line must be drawn between the living and the non-living.” Both of these men seem to agree with the *Hygienic* position that the *organic* world is not a mere sub-division of the *inorganic*.

Beale said that “living matter” is distinguished from all other matter by a property, power or agency by which its elements are arranged, directed, and prepared to combine according to a prearranged plan for a definite purpose. There is no gradual transition from the non-living to the living. Life is a special position, independent of and not in any way related to the physical forces, powers, or properties, and holding in the cosmos a remarkable and peculiar place.

Living organisms, even in their primal stages, move and grow. All things else can be moved; living things, of all matter, *move*. Anything may be moved; only living things can move themselves. This power of self-movement is characteristic of and peculiar to living organisms.

Living things direct their own activities. The most complex machine ever invented by man requires direction. The simplest organism is capable of self-direction.

The living organism seeks and prepares its own food and repairs itself. Lifeless engines need to be repaired by man. They are not capable of appropriating and assimilating suitable materials and transforming these into engine-substance and employing this in repairing themselves.

The living “machine” is very complex and its actions are powered from within. The most complex lifeless machine derives its power from without—water power, wind power, steam power, electric power, gas power. The linotype machine is very complex, but it is powered from without and is operated and directed from without.

The living organism is self-evolving. From a microscopic ovum the most complex living organism evolves along definite and predetermined lines to the latest complexities of structure. The steam engine does not evolve itself, but is made by man. It must be supplied with water and fired by man, have its heat and steam-pressure regulated by man and must be operated and directed by man.

The materials that go into an organized body cannot organize themselves. Something else must organize them. Life is the organizing agent. Life only from pre-existent life is a fact of nature. Life comes only from pre-existing life by a process we call reproduction. Only living organisms are capable of reproduction. No man-made machine, however complex, can produce another and like machine.

Biologists and anatomists are fond of dissecting animals and plants. They study the dead. Biology is a refined form of necrology —the science of the dead. One biologist of note suggests that while biology should deal with living things, it has hung around the morgue so long that it is “the science of dead remains,” which has become “a sort of common meeting ground of geology, chemistry and physics.” He adds that it tends to become a “science with no bearing upon those deeper problems which concern cosmic qualities and values.”

Most biologists have mounted too many butterflies and dissected too many grasshoppers. They have spent too much time studying dead structures and chemically analyzing dead substance, not sufficient time studying the actions and functions of living organisms. All unconsciously, perhaps, they have transformed biology into necrology. There is no “mental mechanism” to be found in the morgue.

The biologist is no biologist at all, for he tends to conceive of living in terms of mechanical and chemical processes, instead of seeing them as organic processes. We have the work of organs, indeed we have the correlated work of a whole group of interrelated organs, not any merely mechanical movements or purely chemical reactions. It is essential that we see in life the actions of the living organism, not the mere motions of a machine or the reactions of a chemical substance.

By life is meant the primal force of living existence. What is it; where does it originate; what becomes of it at death; what is its nature? These are all interrogations we cannot answer. Happily we do not have to answer them. We can live and live in the highest and fullest sense without being able to answer a single one of these questions.

Graham says that, while we do not know what the essence of life is, “we know as certainly as we know anything concerning matter, that it could not spring from any of the properties or powers of inorganic matter, and that its relation to the organization of matter is of necessity in the nature of things, and has ever been since the first establishment of the vital economy in connection with organized matter, that of a cause and not of an effect.”—*Science of Human Life*, page 201.

The manifestations of force in the living organism appear to represent the collective energy of many internal elemental parts. The living organism employs the forces of heat, light, gravitation, etc., in ways to suit its own ends. As a mechanism it employs mechanical laws; as a chemical body in which chemical processes are ever going on, it employs chemical laws; the laws of gravitation are involved in all its motions; it possesses the power to use the forces and agents of nature or to reject them, even to completely overcome some of them, according to its own needs and interests. But the control of the organism over the mechanical, chemical and thermal forces and materials has a limit, and while it can control all forces to its own best interest within that limit, and these forces contribute to the support of life only so long as they are controlled by the organism, these forces and agents are capable of producing harm to the organism.

Vital processes have a definite objective and pursue this with a persistency and purposiveness that denotes control similar to that which we exercise over our conscious activities. Man’s mind is probably only a part of that larger mind which belongs to life. In building the body, life acts as if it knows and even foreknows. It makes provision for eventualities even before they arise; is both anticipative and economic. In the adaptation of man, animals and plants to their natural environment and the precise adjustment of the internal relations to the external world, there is order and prevision and economy. Even in the instinctive work of animals, such as

the building of a dam by the beaver or the comb by the bee, there is apparent a prevision of which the animal seems to be unconscious. There may even be a cosmic prevision as the facts of symbiosis seem to suggest.

In analyzing the phenomena of life we apprehend them as manifestations, the motions of which can be mechanically traced. If their motions are not actually explained they are at least explainable. The residuum which is life is the spontaneity that pervades all processes of life. Life is not passive, it is no dead machine acted upon from the outside by push. Its manifestations must be considered as active processes of self-motion.

Just as the snowflake exhibits a design of unfailing regularity, so the sequence of biological events in the organism takes place according to an intrinsic necessity which gives them definite direction and when, at the seasonable time definite aims are attained—and which have been prepared by preceding events—the work appears like the work of a predetermined purpose. It is an immanent teleology which dominates the body.

The adjustments of the forces of the body to purpose, to the building up and improvement of structures yet imperfect and to the discharge of functions lying the future, and the subordination of the forces and substances of the body to a system of adaptation and adjustment, suggest purpose and intelligence. Is the purpose conscious or unconscious? If not conscious, it is anticipative of needs provided for before they arise, and is adaptive to unborn requirements.

The most perfect and, at the same time, the most complex example of the striving after a predetermined goal, one in which functions and events yet in the far distance are anticipated and prepared for, is supplied us by ontology—the development of plant or animal from germ to adulthood. Prof. Huxley's beautiful description of the evolution of the young salamander (New York 1871) will fit any developing embryo: "It is as if a delicate finger traced out the lines to be occupied by a spinal column and moulded the contour of the body; pinching up the head at one end, the tail at the other; fashioning flank and limb to nice salamandarine proportions in so artistic a way, that, after watching the process hour by hour, one is almost involuntarily possessed by the notion that some more subtle aid to vision than an achromatic would show the hidden artist with his plan before him, striving with skillful manipulation to perfect his work."—*Lay Sermons*, p. 261.

The living body is not built from without as a builder constructs his house. The idea is not introduced into the work by tools and shaping processes. On the contrary, the work is from within. The evolving organism is the unfolding (from within outward) of the *idea*. The organism is the product of evolution, not of involution.

All living forms begin as minute one-celled beings (fertilized ovum): *omne vivum ex vivo* (all life from an egg) is still a fact of experience—uncontroverted without a single known exception, unless we except the one-celled forms of life. By processes of segmentation, differentiation and organization the complex organism evolves. This process is orderly and follows a predetermined pattern from imperceptible beginnings to the latest complexity of structure.

It is difficult to study these processes and believe them to be chance developments or the results of blind, mechanical necessity. The orderly series of changes and the marvelous organizing work that is seen is not explained by any or all the known laws of physics and chemistry. Life manifests an organizing and directive intelligence that we find hard to believe illusive.

Life must be big enough and complicated and prescient enough to contain all its evolutionary consequences. It must be able, by the exercise of a power not unlike our wills, to arrange, integrate and coordinate and use in purposive processes and actions the chemical and mechanical energies resident in the most complex organism as well as to give rise to a sonata of Beethoven, a picture by Angelo or a play by Shakespeare.

We know that in the living organism, the molecules are not changed into a new energy. They are at work unaltered and undiminished. A new force has been added—one which directs these forces as a prescient will directs. Life is not merely manifested by a built-up body, it builds the body. It is not the result, but the cause of cellular complexity. From a fertile egg, under proper conditions, there emerges in a few days a bird with tissues and organs—heart, liver, beak, head, eyes, feathers, etc. We know that had the atoms of the egg been in a test-tube no bird would have resulted. There would seem to be no escape from recognizing a prescient, orienting energy such as that employed by a painter, sculptor, poet or other creative worker.

Modern science tends to be materialistic and to deny the existence of purpose in nature. It is insisted that in order to interpret life we must stand outside of ourselves. The eye with which we look upon living phenomena must be cut off, as it were, from the brain behind it. The correspondences which we see, between the system of things outside of us and that system of things inside of us, which is the structure of our own intelligence, are to be discarded.

I believe in the inseparable unity which binds us to all the verities of nature and I do not think we can reasonably be asked to cut ourselves and our purposes off from nature. In as far as man is concerned purposes do exist and we have no grounds for asserting that man alone has purpose. The tissues and organs of the body are all essentially adaptations in the nature of “purposes,” being indeed contrivances of the

most complicated kinds for the discharge of equally complicated functions of a very special character. Organisms in nature appear equally to be essentially adaptations in the nature of purposes or special contrivances of even more complicated characters for the discharge of most intricate bio-social, bio-economic and biomoral functions. The whole of plant and animal life is interlinked and interwoven in a far-reaching interdependence and tied to some great cosmic purpose. Just as the operations of life constitute, within the organism, a circuit of mutually dependent processes, so in the wider field of life the inter-organismal operations of the plant and animal constitute a circuit of mutually dependent processes. All of life is related and normally cooperative.

III. Internal Symbiosis

Symbiosis is partnership. Internal symbiosis is the reciprocal differentiation and cooperation seen in the evolution of organs and the physiological division of labor in organisms. Concord and mutual aid are essential between the organs of the body. The interdependence of the organs of the body means that no organ is so independent that it can, with impunity, disregard the rights of other organs. All organs must rely upon one another and in many ways give recompense for their drafts on the funds of life. The stomach digests food for the whole organism and not for itself alone; the lungs supply oxygen for all the tissues and not for their own tissues only—such is the give-and-take in the body. The units of the body have evolved together for the purpose of co-operation; indeed, as Reinheimer puts it: “Organization itself is a monument to co-operation.”

One of Aesop’s fables is appropos at this point. His story is that “the members of the body once rebelled against the belly.” “You,” they said to the belly, “live in luxury and sloth, and never do a stroke of work; while we not only have to do the hard work that is to be done, but are actually your slaves and have to minister to all your wants. Now, we will do so no longer, and you can shift for yourself in the future.” They were as good as their word and left the belly to starve. The result was just what might be expected: the whole body began to fail, and the members all shared in the general collapse. And they saw too late how foolish they had been.

Aesop’s fable is illustrative of the fact of the integral unity of the body; it reveals that long ago the dependence of each part upon every other part and of all parts upon each was fully realized. Fortunately the kind of rebellion that Aesop pictured is not possible; unfortunately, another type of rebellion is possible. The human head (we call it mind) has gone astray; it no longer serves the other members of the body, but uses its quasi-autonomy to pervert and interrupt the primordial unity of the body and to bring to it substances that, instead of supplying its needs in a normal and wholesome way, irritate and disturb and cause it to waste its precious energies in defending itself.

Our physiologists and biologists have evolved the conception of the living body as a machine constituted of physiologic parts and systems constellated for the achievement of a common end. This has truly been characterized as a “departmentalization of an intrinsic one-bodiedness,” and has been properly described as a mere “exploitation of the technological methodologies of physical science.” This departmentalization of the body enables Darwinians to carry their conception of competition and struggle into the field of physiology.

In an article on “Balance of Power in the Body,” Prof. Julian S. Huxley says: “Roux pointed out that the different organs and cells of which the body of an animal is composed must be competing with each other for food and the other necessities of existence just as do whole animals.” True to the Darwinian tradition of competitive struggle, Huxley postulates a perpetual “struggle between tissues” and prevents chaos within the body only by an appeal to the European militarist’s makeshift “balance of power.”

To such perverted minds nature is “red in tooth and claw;” the only law of nature is ruthless struggle, in which every living thing is the enemy of every other. If Roux had not been blinded by the nightmare of Darwinism, he might conceivably have compared the millions of cooperating cells in the body to the cooperative living together of bees in the hive or ants in their beds. This is the true picture of the norm of nature.

Huxley points out that a piece of living tissue taken from the body and supplied with proper nutrient media will continue to grow indefinitely, “while the same piece of tissue if left in the body would after a time have ceased growing. The rest of the tissues of the body must somehow check its activities and prevent its growth.”

Adding together the partial autonomy of the tissues and their mutual control in the corporate condition, he gets latent hostility between the tissues. Huxley regards the examples of cooperation between the tissues of the body as examples of “camouflaged struggle,” and tells us that in the higher animals and man, “the checks and counter-checks are so carefully balanced that it is difficult to frame a proper picture of the ceaseless struggle that is going on within.” This monstrous fallacy derives naturally and necessarily from the enthronement of struggle as the norm of life, and this was accomplished by arguing the supremacy of the seamy side of life. Pathology became health and health became pathology.

The only correct way of viewing the body is to view it as a whole, but the physiologist with his physico-chemical theories is unable to make good science of the *tout-ensemble*. An organism is a greater or lesser number of cohering parts, possessing intimate relations among themselves, exchanging services and substances with each other and working for the common good rather than selfish individual advantage. In the beginning all parts of the body were one and, though now there is differentiation, yet there is still continuity. In an evolving organism the differentiating process is accompanied by integration of the parts (organs and tissues), the whole remaining a unit, the plan of the whole organism influencing the character of the organs subordinate to and which enter into it.

Division of labor is an internal adaptation and a means of increased efficiency and

increased productiveness. The greater organic complexity of the higher animals means increased symbiotic supports for the higher functions performed by these animals. The organs of the body are co-equal partners in a vital reciprocity. Natural selection, which is merely a process of elimination and never the source of endowment and qualification, may tend, in the Darwinian plan, to “simplify” (degrade) an organism.

An organism is a complex of differentiated, co-ordinated, unified, integrated, semi-independent entities (organs) which reciprocate with and compensate each other in their performance of duties. The organic units of an organism have been specialized in order that they may better perform the particular duties imposed upon them. As specialists, they are forced to rely, for compensation, upon the integrity and industry of the other organs of the organism. Without cooperation nothing can be achieved.

Interorganic cooperation and compensation are inherent in the very constitution of organisms. They are eternally indispensable principles. Borrowing a phrase from biology, the separate organs of the body collectively constitute a web of life in which all must work and labor together, all, alike, being made of one “stuff,” though “modified” and “specialized” to form a hierarchy of organs—an organism.

In the physiological community, in the long run, organs are measured by what they export, that is, by what they can render in goods and services to the other members of the organism. The body is a socio-physiological organism in which the good of the whole community of life takes precedence over that of the individual organ, and in which the vital spare products of the work of each organ contributes to the integrity and function of all the other organs. Not the expedient profit of one organ, but the well-being of the whole organism is the aim of all physiological activity.

The organs of the body pool their functional results; the cooperative efforts of the totality of organs making up the body tend to produce a resultant equal to their combined value and greatly enrich each organ thereby. More than this, they provide the increment of organic capital essential to reproduction. Organic capital consists of the stored reserves, both of substances and energies, which are over and above the normal daily needs of life.

Physiological wealth is due to the co-operate efforts of all the organs of the body. This systematic physiological co-operation (internal symbiosis) is the source of the accumulation of wholesome physiological capital. Each organ, in its work, supplies its own needs, lays up a reserve fund for itself and contributes to the general reserve of the organism in addition to supplying, through its special functions, immediate

needs of the organism.

Every organ must work—it must perform self-supporting labor. There is also a system of elaborate service of one organ to another, so that, each organ must be fruitful in its relations with other organs. Physiological wealth is due to work, effort and co-operation.

In a broad general sense every part of the body acts for the good of the whole, rather than for its own selfish advantage. The organic community goes forward as a whole. Stability, efficiency and permanence depend upon a satisfactory relatedness to the web of organism. Good functional behavior and loyalty to the organism by each organ of the body are fundamental and constitutional virtues.

Each organ, in supplying increasingly adequate spare products for its symbiotic partners, incidentally provides for better support for itself from the products of its partners; so that an organ is richer, the more it contributes to the sum of organic (body) wellbeing.

In order to a wide physiological usefulness there must be a rhythmic performance of well regulated functions and a permanent and complex system of division of labor with systematic cooperation between the organs of the body, resulting in such mutual activation and mutual enhancement as to produce and maintain a stable relation and, in general, such fortification of the body as to lead to considerable permanence and to a high degree of efficiency and integrity of the compound organism. The better each organ does the work for which it is specialized, the better can every other organ perform the work for which it is constituted and the better will be the valuable substances that are stored up in the organism as capital for domestic and reproductive uses, or to facilitate further development.

Physiology can never be interpreted exclusively in chemico-physical terms, for the bio-social, bio-economic necessity for cooperation between the varied organs and functions of the body renders this impossible. Internal symbiosis involving organic reciprocity, organic compensation and organic relatedness is one of the most important principles in physiology.

The work of organisms may finally be based upon chemical energy, but we must not lose sight of the fact that this energy is the result of a previous integration and that both the energy and the previous integration are directed by something which is not, itself, a chemical energy, though closely associated with the organic synthesis which that energy serves to maintain.

The concord existing between the various organs and systems of the body must be adequately maintained. The blood, glands and nervous system have the responsibility of directing and coordinating the functions of the organism. There is

here a deputing of interdependent functions, involving the necessity for a loyal discharge of duties, to special organs and systems. Such a case of division of labor, plus the loyal disposition for mutual accomodation and mutual support, is a splendid example of “internal symbiosis.”

When cooperation of an exacting kind becomes the paramount duty there is usually some necessity for mutual interference and checking between the various organs. The counter-action of one organ by another is not hostile, and does not constitute that self-contradictory thing some have conjured into resistance—“hostile symbiosis.” Regulative interference is not hostile. Mutuality, subordination and control constitute the golden rule in the web of organic life.

The gains resulting to each organ, arising out of their symbiotic inter-organic relations, are positive compensations honestly earned by widely availing services to the organic community. To accept gains from the general funds of life without rendering due service in return is to constitute the organ a thief. Emerson pointed out that the thief steals from himself and the swindler swindles himself. Just so the robber organ robs itself in robbing the organism.

It is the law of life that those organs which receive extra supplies are to use them in extra service to their partners. The give and take principle operating between the organs of the body requires that for the highest welfare of the organism, there be no net loss. All of the correlated parts of the organism are reached by the blood and remunerated in proportion to their physiological dues; and all make their return contribution in various ways that they may again merit compensation from the general symbiotic fund of the organic polity.

A surplusage given to one organ is paid out of a reduction of supplies to other organs. A pronounced increase in the function of an organ, where this increase is needed, may be obtained, provided the organ can rely upon adequate compensation. The organ can do the extra work provided it is supplied with the necessary funds by the work of the organism. When an organ fails to work, to render service, it is deprived of support and slips backward—atrophies.

If any organ of the body is prone to seize more than its due share of the circulating manna, or to have “sticky fingers,” or to appropriate what is not really intended for local consumption, thereby robbing the rest of the organism, weakness and inferiority inevitably result. This is a transgression of the principle of cooperation, of reciprocity, of compensation—a divorce from symbiosis. The first requisite of organismal solidarity is loyalty to the principle of cooperation.

The body with its several organs and division of labor is a socio-economic unit in which systematic organic co-operation is essential to organic as well as organismal

efficiency and welfare. Any organ, such as the organ of taste, the sex organs, the digestive organs, etc., which flouts loyalty and cooperation, loses efficiency for bio-social service and has its physiological stability impaired.

Just as in society, anti-social behavior and anti-social principles tend to pervert the whole social, economic and moral life of society, so in the body the correlations of organo-socially bad conduct tend to weaken and pervert the whole of organic life, the resulting evils extending to the mind, emotions and instincts.

IV. Basic Needs of Living

AIR

WATER

FOOD

SUNSHINE

TEMPERATURE

ACTIVITY (Work, Function, Exercise)

REST (Relaxation)

SLEEP (Repose)

CLEANLINESS

REPRODUCTION

HAPPINESS

ORGANIZATION

CONDUCT

FAITH

NORMAL LIVING

THE TOTAL APPROACH

We should fully understand that our lives are but individualizations, partial and limited expressions of the integral life, just as our bodies are parcels or fragments of the body of the earth upon which we live. We maintain our lives from hour to hour, from instant to instant, only in virtue of our relation with the sun and air and earth—by food, air, water, heat, light—which supply the essential conditions of existence and the materials out of which our inner structures are formed and shaped.

There are certain fundamental conditions proper to the mental and physical wellbeing of man, and we must understand, as a matter of the strictest science as well as of individual experience, that health is maintained or lost in exact proportion as these fundamental conditions are supplied or denied. This is one of the first important truths in reference to our physical organization which we must learn, if we are to have health on anything more than the haphazard basis commonly accepted. For when the conditions of normal life are not fulfilled it is inevitable that sickness ensue; when they are adequately fulfilled, health is equally inevitable.

How shall we determine our choice of materials and conditions for the production of tissue and the elimination of waste and toxins? We must let the living organism answer this question for us. The human constitution is the final umpire before which all such questions must be arbitrated. Can the body use the material in the production of tissue or in the elimination of waste? If not, it is valueless. That is hygienic, that is

beneficial if used habitually in a state of health, those things, in other words that are essential to a state of health and are indispensable to life. But let us not lose sight of the fact that health and the best means of promoting it cannot be studied in the sick room. The conditions and materials of health are best studied in the healthiest specimens. If the body rejects it in health it is not normal to man, is not a *hygienic* factor; if the body seeks it and appropriates it in a state of health, it is a *hygienic* factor. If the body cannot make use of it in health, it is equally valueless in a state of disease.

Physiology affords us no knowledge of any power in the living organism by which it can manufacture either tissue or energy out of drug-elements, or by which it can eliminate the causes of disease with such elements. On the contrary, the physiologist knows all too well that drugs are only means whereby the system may be exhausted in a very unnecessary and wasteful manner. Any interference with the processes of life, in either health or disease, except by supplying appropriate elements for its use and proper conditions for appropriating these, is always and under all circumstances, a serious mistake.

The chief materials and conditions concerned in vital processes are air, water, food, sunshine, temperature, rest and sleep, exercise or activity, cleanliness and wholesome mental states. The sum of the whole of these, if rightly used, is health. When any or all of them are abused, disease results. *Preservative Hygiene*, that is, the hygienic care of the well to the end that health may be maintained, is the correct employment of these factor-elements of normal living plus the persistent avoidance of abnormal elements or habits that we have foolishly, though, perhaps, ignorantly introduced into our living plans. Let us here briefly consider the essential factors of life.

AIR

Air, which we take into our lungs in breathing, is the chief source of oxygen, an element that is as essential to nutrition and the functions of life as nitrogen, carbon, calcium, etc. Without sufficient oxygen to keep the “flame of life” burning brightly death ensues. The elaborate provision that has been made to supply the body with oxygen reveals the great importance of air.

The red cells are oxygen carriers, their function depending upon the presence of hemoglobin. They also carry carbon dioxide, so that they are important factors in both the nutrition and the drainage of the body. It is estimated that normally about one-fourth of the blood of the body is in the lungs, which means that an average of

about one thousand square yards of blood cell surface is constantly exposed to the air. As our commonly recognized “normals” are far from valid, this figure may be short of the genuine norm of nature. This blood surface in the lungs flows past the air chambers of the lungs in a never-ending stream so that it is estimated that every second two trillion cells pass by the air chambers giving up their load of carbon dioxide and taking on a supply of oxygen.

Fresh air is essential at all times. When we consider how the air in our cities is contaminated with just about anything and everything that our bodies do not want, cannot use, and will probably work themselves to death trying to expel, we can appreciate the advantages the country dweller has over the city dweller in this respect. The lungs of the dweller in the industrial cities become filled with soot and are found, at death, to be black and infiltrated with dust and soot.

Medical men had taught the people for so many ages that cold air, damp air, night air and draughts cause disease, that they had them living and sleeping in unventilated homes, stores, offices, shops, etc. They closed the windows and doors of the sick-room and excluded all fresh air. Hospitals were ill-ventilated, foul-smelling dives in which breathing was difficult. When the *Hygienists*, led by Graham and Trall, attacked these superstitions, the profession was by no means the first to admit the correctness of the views of *Hygienists*. Indeed, they have never entirely admitted that they were wrong about cold air, damp air, night air and draughts. To this day they prefer the oxygen-tent to fresh air.

Full breathing is an indispensable requisite of good health. People who live and work and sleep in ill-ventilated houses, offices and workshops, who sit stooped over or in cramped positions at their work, or the desk in the school room, and those whose clothing so constricts the waist and chest that normal breathing is not possible, suffer from insufficient oxygenation and, consequently, function on a low physiological level. Shoemakers, tailors, seamstresses and others whose work keeps them in constrained and cramped postures cannot breathe well. A proper and efficient performance of the important function of respiration is impossible when the habitual position is such as to prevent the normal excursions of the chest and diaphragm in breathing. Workers—such as stonecutters, welders, painters, bakers, printers, and others who work amid gases and dust—are also greatly handicapped by a lack of fresh air during their working hours.

Foul air and bad bodily use are not the only elements of impaired breathing. We frequently see inadequate thoracic equipment among the people all around us. These people lack the chest size and expansion needed for the size and weight of their bodies. Such a condition is not confined to the adult populations of our cities, but

inadequate respiratory equipment is sometimes seen in babies at birth. If the respiratory equipment of the individual is not proportioned to body size and weight, it will not be possible for him to function on any high physiological level. Even but a slight deficit in respiratory capacity will make a considerable difference in the course of a single day. Every parent should see to it that congenital or hereditary respiratory deficiency is overcome by means of proper chest gymnastics started early. Defective oxygenation is in itself a state of impaired health and the ultimate character and site of the so-called diseases that grow out of this are, as a rule, secondary and determined by factors which are additional to and often less important than the respiratory inadequacy.

Air is also the medium that carries heat away from the body. Even warm air carries away heat and cools the body covered with perspiration. An electric fan does not cool the air; it only circulates it. A current of warm air driven against the wet body feels cool. When the body has become thoroughly dried, the same air will feel hot. Air, is thus seen to be important, both internally and externally.

WATER

Considered in its physiological relations, water is one of the most important nutritive elements that is used by the living organism, whether plant or animal. It composes the chief bulk of all animal and vegetable bodies, provides the essential fluidity of the blood of the animal and the sap of the plant, without which neither could flow or be distributed to the many tissues and organs of the complex body. About four-fifths of the blood by weight is water, while the so-called solid portions of the body, the muscular portions, are chiefly water, containing scarcely one-fourth of solid matter, the remainder being water. Bone contains water as an essential constituent, while cartilage contains even more water than bone. All of the secretions of the body including the milk of mammals are largely water.

The body, composed as it is of multitudinous cellular aggregations, must of necessity be porous and tubular, or else it would be impossible for each part and each cell to receive nourishment and to have its waste carried away. When we reflect that water is the only liquid which is essential to the formation, development and support of the human frame, is the menstruum and conductor of all other nutritive elements to all parts of the body and the menstruum and conductor of waste and toxins from the cells and out of the body, we begin to perceive something of its importance in the economy of living organisms. The fact that water is absolutely necessary to depuration is often not sufficiently stressed; on the other hand, there are those who

think that excretion can be speeded up merely by over drinking of water. Water is essential for the removal and expulsion of waste materials from the cells and tissues of the body, so that water is as important for disassimilation and excretion as for supply and assimilation.

As it is water that conveys the nutritional factors to all the cells and carries away the cellular waste, this is to say, as food materials can be carried throughout the body by water only, and as water is the only medium by which waste is carried away, it follows that the value of food, sunshine, exercise, air, etc., depends upon water. But water is not merely used by the body in carrying on its functions, much of the water taken in becomes actual cell constituent, so that, as already pointed out, the body is largely water.

Air that is deprived of all water is hardly fit for respiration. But water, diffused through the air as vapor, serves another important function; namely, it prevents a too rapid evaporation of water from the body. Air deprived of all humidity would cause a rapid and exhausting evaporation of water, both from the skin and lungs, thus rapidly dehydrating the body, reducing the individual to a state of exhaustion and, if water were not taken, death.

Drink we define as pure water, all other fluid substances taken as “drink” being either foods or poisons. *Hygienists* can agree with the ancient Pliny who considered it a great absurdity for mankind to go to such great trouble and expense in making, artificially, such a great variety of liquors, when nature has prepared, ready-made and always at hand, a drink of so much superior quality as pure water. The only beneficial substance contained in these liquors is water; most of the rest of their contents being poison.

Not all of the water taken into the body is taken as drink. Fruits and vegetables are abundant in this substance. Even the potato, solid as it may seem, is composed of from seventy to eighty per cent water. The more succulent vegetables and the juicy fruits are even more abundant in water. Thus, the juices of foods (unlike liquors), which contain wholesome nutritive substances, also supply the body with water. It is significant that water is the only drink for all animated beings except man, who goes out of his way to prepare poisonous liquids for “drink.” Although the “soft drinks” now imbibed in such great quantities by the people of this country, are largely water, they contain coal tar dyes, white sugar, artificial flavors, phosphoric acid and various habit-forming poisons such as caffeine and acetanilid.

Instinctively animals prefer soft waters to hard waters and horses may be observed slaking their thirst in a turbid stream of soft water rather than to drink hard, though limpid water. It is unfortunate for man that he has developed the idea, one

that has been fostered by the medical profession, that if the waters of a well or a stream are so foul that cattle will not drink them, they are possessed of medicinal properties.

The body is constantly losing water through the skin as sweat, through the lungs in the exhalations of these, through the kidneys as urine and through the colon mixed with the feces, as well as in saliva and mucous that may be expelled from the body; hence, it is necessary to frequently replenish the water supply, either by drinking water or by taking it in the food eaten. Many people derive all of their water from food and drink no water. This subject of water and water drinking will be discussed more fully in Volume II of this series.

FOOD

Food is any substance which the living organism can appropriate and make a part of itself. This is to say, it is usable material or material that can be made into living tissue. All else is poison. However innocuous a substance may appear, if it is not food it is poison in its relation to the living organism. Food is the material out of which the organism is constructed and by which it is repaired and maintained and by which reproduction is accomplished.

Perhaps in no field of human knowledge does there exist as great discrepancy between the vast amount of truth that is already ours, and its utilization in safeguarding the welfare and increasing the dignity of man, than in the field of *Hygiene* and nutrition, which is but a part of *Hygiene*. Ignorance, poverty, prejudice and intolerance are not the sole causes of our failure to benefit from the knowledge (to use but one factor) of diet and nutrition that is ours, in increasing human health, happiness and longevity. Commercial interests, including the disease-treaters, are even greater bulwarks against truth.

To state that food is an absolutely necessary pre-condition of life and health is but to state a fact of everyday observation. So basic is food it may properly be regarded as the controlling factor of life and health. We are often reminded that we can live for weeks without food, for days without water but only for minutes without air. This apparent fact is supposed to show the relative importance of these nutritional factors. There are two simple replies to this statement. These are: 1. air and water are also food; and, 2. the length of time one may go without taking these nutrients is determined by the amounts of them that are stored within the organism. A man can go for weeks without eating only because he possesses a large store of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, minerals, vitamins, etc., within his own body. The time he can go

without water is much shorter because he has a relatively smaller water supply stored within. He has almost no stored free oxygen that can be used in the absence of oxygen from without, hence he must have oxygen quickly or he perishes. It is doubtful, in my mind, at least, that a man can live longer without sugar or protein, or phosphorus, or iron, than he can live without oxygen.

As food lies at the very foundation of human existence (constitutes its substratum), supplies the elements of our physical organization and the materials for the unfolding of all the mental powers of living structure's, it is important that we know something about our food needs in the many and varying conditions and circumstances of existence.

Medical men were simple enough to believe that on the basis of chemical analysis, the whole mystery of nutrition could be solved, indeed, had been solved. They discovered that man needed proteins, carbohydrates and fats. Under their influence civilized man was led to attempt to live upon a diet such as no race in history had ever attempted to live upon. The results were disastrous, although, despite the findings of the past fifty years, most medical men are still loathe to admit that the profession had been wrong.

When medical men realized the inadequacy of their previous teachings about diet, their protein-fat-carbohydrate fuel and their calories, they gave but scant attention to minerals, but turned to a search for other factors. This led to the discovery of vitamins. Today it is well known that it is possible to die of starvation on a diet that supplies proteins, fats and carbohydrates in full measure. *Hygienists* and others decried cooking on the ground that it destroyed the "life" of the food, that it destroyed its electro-magnetic qualities, that it disorganized it, etc. These first faint efforts to discover something in foodstuffs besides fats, proteins and carbohydrates, may properly be recognized as "intuitive" recognition of vitamins and enzymes. Indeed, when the discovery of vitamins was first announced, Prof. Percy G. Styles, an American physiologist, described the theory as a re-statement of Graham's views.

Realizing that the men outside the profession, whom they had denounced in no uncertain terms, had long since beaten them to important facts about food and nutrition, the medical profession is still loathe to admit the validity of the findings of their own research workers. Certainly they are making no use of "the new knowledge of nutrition."

All of this modern attention to separate food factors—proteins, carbohydrates, fats, minerals, vitamins, etc.—amounts to fragmentation of what should be something whole and sound, accessible to us without our having to take thought. Our food supply should be healthy by tradition and, even its ingredients should be accepted as

a matter of course by each generation growing up in a nation soundly based on a healthy soil and its wise cultivation. There should be no individual concern about its components as revealed by analysis. Fundamentally, this seems to me to be a correct principle.

Unfortunately, civilized man is wholly destitute of sound dietetic traditions and he is becoming more and more cut off from his sources of supply. As he becomes increasingly urbanized and as the farming population does not observe even the minimum care of the soil that should prevail, and with the food processors standing between man and his ultimate sources of supply, he has completely lost his way in the matter of healthy food and the soil from which it is derived. This makes it necessary to recover our lost ground by a resort to study. Did we live normal lives, and had we left the earth in its original state, and did we take our foods in their natural conditions, there would be no more necessity for man to study diet than there is for the deer of the forest to do so.

All the indications afforded us by chemistry in our choice of nutrients are of a more or less negative character. Man is a biological, not a chemical entity and his diet should be regulated by certain well-known biological principles. From the outset the view of *Hygienists* has been that, the great aim ought to be to feed according to the laws of the human constitution and, consequently, in the matter of diet, to adopt those foods for which man is constitutionally adapted. First, it was essential to determine the normal dietetic character of man and then feed accordingly. This led to placing the emphasis on fruits, nuts and green vegetables, foods that the medical profession regarded as practically without food value, or even harmful, until after the discovery of vitamins.

The old medical delusion that fruits are practically devoid of food value still lingers on in the minds of millions of people. They think of fruit as a “relish” or a dessert or an “appetizer,” but not as a nourishing food. Many are afraid of fruits, a survival of the medical teaching of not so long ago that fruits cause many diseases.

That is a healthful diet only which supplies the body with all of the requisite food factors in a natural harmony and in all of their natural or normal correlations. Synthetic diets, made up of synthetic vitamins, salts from the laboratory, and the refined products of the mills and factories, do not preserve nor restore health. Such diets will not repair the injury done by our deliberate disturbance of the natural harmony of foods. Since science does not know all of the essential food factors, nor all of their correlations, it is in no position to synthesize arbitrarily, an adequate system of diet. What has been achieved so far is the ruin of the natural harmonies and balances that exist in nature’s unchanged products.

That by our methods of cooking, baking, processing, milling, etc., and sterilizing foods we destroy certain vitamins, and enzymes, throw away others, render non-usable certain mineral salts and discard others, alter the fats, carbohydrates and proteins, so that they are less valuable as nutrients, is well known. Most of this wreck of our foods is the result of commercial requirements and the continued support of the processing comes from commercial interests and their hirelings. This interference with the natural harmony of nature's food products is seen to be all the more serious when it is understood that it affects the germ-plasm of those who live upon such a diet, so that succeeding generations are injured thereby. Much evil that is marked up against "heredity" is the outgrowth of a few generations of such feeding.

I but state what everybody knows when I say that not everything that is eaten today is food—much of it consists of poisonous or "stimulating" substances, among which condiments and table salt, must be included, as well as intoxicating liquors and beverages. Despite the common total disregard of the fact in practice, it is also generally known that the use of these poisonous substances is prejudicial to health. Indeed, the more of these are taken and the worse, from the nutritional standpoint the food eaten, the greater is the "demand" for these *stimulants*.

Hunger is the most compelling of the five sensual appetites, the one with which we cannot possibly dispense. When we shall have attained the same degree of wisdom in the satisfaction of hunger that we see in animals, the pleasures of eating will be seen to have nothing ignoble about them and we will realize, contrary to the diatribes of moralists against the pleasures of the table, that this sensual impulse should be ranked highest among the appetites of the body.

The delights of the table are for the hungry man, not for the man who sits down to a costly meal with jaded appetite and dyspeptic stomach. What the dyspeptic needs is not more food, but better digestion; not more tempting viands and stimulants for his "appetite," but a keen sense of hunger. It is true hunger that transmutes plain, dry bread into ambrosia and clear cool water into nectar. To the man who does not impair his sense of taste and destroy his hunger by excesses and does not undermine his organism with irregularities, belongs the privilege of enjoying life. True hunger converts vegetables into delicious fruits, the common earth apple into pippins and nectarines. Only fools are willing to exchange the delights of true hunger, a keen sense of taste and natural food flavors for the "stimulants" and spices with which the glutton and gormand fools himself into thinking that he enjoys his meals.

Gastrohygiene or the hygiene of eating involves gastrology, the science of eating; *gastronomy*, the art and science of dining well; and *gastrosophy*, the harmonious interlocking of production, preparation and appropriation (eating) of food; it is the

grand field where the labors and arts of the garden, orchard, vineyard, conservatory and kitchen meet and mingle and where the luxury of appreciation has been earned by the labors which have preceded and produced it. *Gastrosophy* involves not only the preparation and eating of foods, but also the fertilization and cultivation of the soil, the planting and care of food plants and the harvesting and preservation of foods and, also, the fitting of the foods to the needs of the body as determined by labor and the state of health. It includes gastrology, gastronomy, gastro-hygiene and agriculture, horticulture and food preparation as well. *Gastrosophy* directs in full the two branches of external and internal luxury, since in providing for the support of health, and the perfection of the body, it encourages in the same ratio the *labors* destined to provide for these. The subject is too big for adequate treatment in this chapter and has been reserved for volume II of this series, which deals with correct nutrition.

SUNSHINE

The sun supplies us with more than warmth. It provides other requisites of normal nutrition in the life of both plants and animals. It is just as essential to the growing child as to the growing plant and, just as the plant kept out of the sunshine loses its shape, flavor and color—becomes etiolated or blanched, and slender and weak—so the growing child denied sunshine, becomes pale, anemic, weak and poorly developed. Sunshine is more important while growing and developing than later in life, but is important at all ages. It aids in the development of various parts of the body.

The influence of the rays of the sun upon human thought and actions are only less appreciable than those upon the growth of a melon vine, because it affects man through the media of so many relations, besides its direct effects. But in the more complex organism of man glow the same solar fires that burn brightly in the melon vine and its luscious fruit.

The beneficial influence of the sun upon the blood, bones and nerves in such conditions as tuberculosis, rickets, anemia, and infantile paralysis is well known. If the sun is of benefit in remedying these conditions, why not also in preventing them? And if it is of use in preventing and remedying such terrible conditions as these, why is it not useful in preventing and remedying less serious “diseases”? If, on the other hand, exposure of the nude body to the sun’s rays will so revitalize a devitalized and sick body, that it will return to a more nearly normal condition, why cannot this exposure be more positively relied upon to keep a vital body so vital that it will be able to resist the causes of pathology? This subject will be discussed in great detail in

volume III of this series.

TEMPERATURE

Active life is sharply limited to a rather short span of temperature between the low point at which it can continue and the high point at which it ceases to manifest. There is great variation in this respect with the many species of plant and animal life, but the variations exist between rather narrow limits. The eggs of some species of animals hatch in low temperatures that would be destructive to the eggs of other species, some of them requiring considerable warmth in order to hatch. Just as some plants are killed by low temperatures short of freezing, so many forms of animal life cannot live in low temperatures. Some forms of life, like bacteria, many fish and many low forms of life may be frozen and preserved for long periods in ice and, then, when they are thawed out, may resume life where they left off. While still alive in this frozen state, they are not in this state capable of *active life*. Most animals and plants, when frozen, are destroyed. Some bacteria, like the so-called tubercle bacillus, break up into spores, when subjected to boiling and are capable of living in this state for an hour or more. When the temperature is reduced, each spore develops into a new bacterium and active life is resumed. Most forms of plant and animal life are destroyed at much lower temperatures.

Heat and cold are relative terms, so that an object may be said to be cold when compared to another object that is warmer; it may, at the same time, be said to be warm, when compared to another object that is colder. These two terms merely represent varying degrees of temperature. Some degree of heat or warmth is absolutely necessary to the continuance of life and activity. As constant warmth is an essential requisite of normal cell function and as cellular activity ceases when the temperature drops below a certain well-defined limit, it may be that the primary purpose of oxidation of sugar in the body is to produce heat rather than working energy. Animals possess the power of producing heat in varying degrees; some, like the cold blooded animals, producing very little and remaining dormant when cold, and others, like the warm blooded animals, being able to produce great amounts of heat, so that they maintain their normal temperatures in the face of great cold, hence remain active.

The normal human body, by reason of its own heat producing and heat regulating abilities, succeeds in maintaining a temperature of 98.6° F., in both hot and cold weather, and men have been able to go into ovens and remain there while a leg of mutton was roasting, so long as they were provided with a current of fresh air. There

are times, as will be seen in volume VI of this series, when a higher than normal temperature is required and this is easily provided by automatic mechanisms possessed by the body. There is no valid reason to fear the increase of temperature thus produced, but there is reason for apprehension when the temperature of the body falls much below the normal standard, although there may be reason to think that the accepted standard of 98.6° F. is not valid. If temperature falls too low the individual dies.

Resisting extremes of external temperature by the body constitutes a drain upon its energy resources and, if too prolonged, becomes a factor-element in the production of disease. In low states, when the body's powers are weak, more external warmth is required to maintain comfort and prevent too great loss of heat from the body.

ACTIVITY (Work, Function, Exercise)

The need of activity on the part of living organisms is founded in their very constitution, so that certain normal principles of activity cannot legitimately be contravened. Some knowledge of the mechanics of the human body in activity and their proper management by the individual are essential factors of perfect health. Dr. Taylor was of the opinion that "exercise is by far the most important of the different branches of *Hygiene*, because it controls the others."

The example is an old one of the arm or leg that is permitted to fall into disuse withering away and losing strength, beauty and usefulness. This is an extreme example of the results of lack of activity, but it is valuable as showing how important exercise of parts is to their health and vigor.

The amount of exercise needed varies with different individuals and with the same individual under different circumstances and many of our physical workers are at all times overworked. This is to say, they do more physical labor than is good for their bodies. Leisure is as essential as labor. As I have said in Volume IV of this series, in which the subject of exercise is treated at great length, more than three hours of physical labor in twenty-four hours is probably physiologically hurtful.

That restless intellection of which we are so boastfully proud is but a "spiritual disease," unsustained by satisfactions of the heart and the senses. It is an introversion which reflects in our bodies the ill-regulated condition of the elements of our environment, our inferior climates, our illegitimate food, our inner disharmonies and lack of proper physical activity.

Both for health and for the highest pleasures of existence there should be an

alternation of physical with mental labor. He whose chief work is thought needs the wholesome acceleration of his life processes that arises from physical activity, preferably productive activity. If he works hard and tires himself, he should rest before again attempting mental effort. If he would seek the maximum of physical and mental efficiency he must have adequate rest each day.

Simple physical labor that puts thunder in the arm of the blacksmith, and swells the chest of the ploughman with the lungs of the ox, affords no exercise for the thinking portions of the brain. When night gives rest to the sledge hammer and “lays down the shovel and the hoe,” two considerations prevail among the children of toil, one of which is supper, and the other sleep. An occasional apparent exception to this rule does not negative the fact that exclusive attention to physical toil is antithetic to intellectual development.

Life is one and integral, so that any force expended in one direction cannot be at the same time equally exerted in another. Unceasing toil leaves no energy for intellection or for the emotions and affections. Man’s life should be balanced in such a way that all of his being has appropriate exercise, and this will be so when we remake our socio-economic system, building it around human needs rather than, as now, around the supposed interests of an owning class.

With the learning of an Erasmus, the eloquence of Cicero, the philosophy of a Newton, the wisdom of a Solomon and with the capacities of all combined, man would be naught in the world without energy. Energy is the mainspring of our being, the masterwheel of the will, the engine of all our powers. Think of a gun without powder, of a ship without sails, of a train without an engine and you have a symbol of man or woman without energy.

REST (Relaxation)

Rest, as distinguished from sleep, is the cessation of physical activity. To some extent we may also cease sensory activity and thus procure more complete rest. Man is not a perpetual motion machine; he cannot remain continuously active. Rest and relaxation must alternate with activity. Activity expends and wears out; rest permits recuperation and repair. Rest, therefore, becomes an essential of nutrition. The subject of rest will be covered more fully in a subsequent chapter.

SLEEP (Repose)

Sleep may be defined as repose of the mind. Somebody has truly said that without

hope and sleep man would be inconceivably wretched. Repose and activity are complements of each other. Without activity, repose would have no meaning and no use; without repose, activity would exhaust, wear out and destroy.

The most complete and refreshing repose is found in sleep—"tired Nature's sweet restorer." The energies and substances expended in many ways during the activities of the day are recruited during the repose of the night. Rest without sleep affords less complete opportunity for the restorative process, but to a great extent is efficacious for the same end. Sleep should be commensurate with activity, except in invalids and these should sleep more, not less. If you do a lot of thinking, if you are infirm, if you are in trouble, if you work hard, then it is the part of wisdom to get all the sleep you can. If you do not sleep because of "troubles on your mind," then relax as far as possible and rest. This subject will be more fully discussed in a subsequent chapter.

CLEANLINESS

The statement that "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" is attributed to both St. Ambrose and to John Wesley, cleanliness here referring to cleanliness of the skin. It is essential to skin comfort, skin health and to general health and good feeling. "Dirt upon the skin is not merely dirt, but dirty feeling" and, it may be added, dirty odor. Cleanliness is a good social asset and a distinct need of beauty. Jokingly, I often say that "only dirty people need a bath," but none of us can remain always clean so that we never need a cleansing. Regular bathing according to need promotes health, beauty and happiness. This subject will be covered in greater detail in a subsequent chapter.

REPRODUCTION

The normal development of the sexual organs and functions results in a great vitalizing of the individual and a great widening and increase in both mental and physical powers. There is reason to believe that the normal exercise of the sexual powers gives rise to increased power and vigor. Nature rarely demands uncompensated sacrifices of us. On the other hand, there is every reason to believe that every abuse of the sexual function, particularly as represented by overindulgence, is attended by penalties which prove to be cumulative as the abuse is continued.

The prime purpose of the sexual apparatus and sexual function is to secure the continuance of the species through reproduction. Despite the effort of psychologists

and sexologists to show the “nonspecific nature of the basic sexual responses” and their implied denial that there is any reproductive purpose evident in the sexual organs and their behavior, these organs do provide for reproduction; this is their cardinal function, and the contention of psychologists that one form of sexual behavior is as good as another, that all of the historical forms of sexual conduct that have heretofore been labeled perversions are normal, does not make good sense. For example, the intimate correlations and interrelations that exist between the sexes, and that are wholly lacking between members of the same sex, strongly indicate that homosexuality is not normal, even although the psychologists declare otherwise. Organic structures and their normal correlations and interrelations are better criteria of legitimacy of function than are the studies of conventions, as these exist in all parts of the world and among animals.

The timely encounter of ovum and spermatozoon is of primary importance and to secure this end, we find perpetuated in the various groups a varied series of structures and functions arranged to provide for fecundation. In the higher animals the increasing differentiation of the sexes is enhanced by both psychical and physical attractions which more and more ensure the propagation of the race. The principle of the physiological division of labor, well exemplified by the two sexes, is, everywhere, associated with the companion principle of interrelatedness and interdependence.

Without asserting that sexual indulgence has but one genuine purpose, that of reproduction, although it must be admitted that no other hypothesis so far advanced has much biological support, it should be said that sexual indulgence is not and should not become an end in itself. If, in man, the greater intimate relationship that exists in the sexual embrace than among the lower animals is a basis for indulgence for other than reproductive purposes, it is certainly not a valid support for the common overindulgence.

Reproduction and nursing produce definite physiological benefits in women and the denial of this function results in definite body harm. That parentage is a means of emotional expression and satisfaction, thus providing normal and wholesome channels of expression for human emotions and human needs, that no amount of fondling of dogs and cats can ever provide, attests to the psychological value of this human activity. The greater prevalence of tumors and cancers of the breasts and uterus in childless women and in those women who have but one child, as compared with women who have several children, is but part of the evidence of the benefits that are conferred upon women by the biological function. The great prevalence of psychoses and neuroses among single and childless women is another evidence that

the complete suppression of the reproductive function is *resented* by nature. Motherhood is a necessity of normal living for women. When woman “emancipated” herself from the home and willingly enslaved herself to the factory and sweatshop and, at the same time, renounced motherhood, she did herself incalculable harm. The ballot and contraceptives were followed by increase of cancer.

HAPPINESS

Happiness is correlated with health, each of these promoting the other. But it is a mistake to think that happiness is based on indulgence, or that true happiness may be achieved at the expense of health. The statement that “it is probably better to be happy and unhealthy than healthy and unhappy,” is the statement of a man who was seeking justification for self-indulgence. His statement that “a hungry man is an angry man, a well-fed man is often a warmhearted man, and a fat man a contented man,” reveals, both his very superficial observance of life, and his lack of a true understanding of the relations of health and happiness.

The affections must find their satisfaction in our lives. Unsatisfied longing for love, for the joys of motherhood, for the companionship of congenial people, so depresses the vital functions that the light of the eyes is dimmed and the lilies and roses of the cheeks are withered. The cheerful man digests his food, the gloomy, grouchy or sorrowful man suffers with indigestion. The first is duly nourished; the latter is poisoned. The man who is out of “humor” or who has the “blues” is already “half-sick.”

The mind feeds upon other things than food. It feeds upon the scenery, the sounds, either pleasant or harsh in its environment, its associations with other minds, upon books, ideas, etc. Mental hygiene is largely a matter of regulating the mental foods upon which the mind feeds.

ORGANIZATION

The body is constituted of many different organs all correlated and integrated to function as a unit. The organs are made up of specialized histological units—tissues—the tissues are colonized cells. The cells are the units of structure out of which all bodies are built. All of the many varieties of cells in the most complex organism are derived, by direct descent, from the fertilized ovum, that is, from a single cell.

The function of every organ is correlated with the functions of all other organs and failure in one spells a corresponding failure in all of the correlated functions. All

development is correlated development, all failure is joint failure. Nothing short of a general integrity based upon the established harmony between symbiotic partners will avail.

The vitality of every part of the body is maintained through conditions at a distance from it, and often, apparently, not directly connected with it. Health depends, not upon the vigorous action of one or several organs, but upon the vigorous function of all of them. Every organ contributes to and cooperates with every other. "An organism is itself a monument to the cooperative principle." Physiological wealth is due to the cooperative efforts of all of the body's organs. The whole organism goes forward or backward together, and not organ at a time, as those who treat special organs seem to think. Due to the interrelations and interdependencies of the organism, any interference with the functions of an organ, either as a result of irritation, or as a result of a lack of normal supplies, is interference with all of them. Nothing short of a correct adjustment of life and environment (orthobionomics) can guarantee the persistence of the organic and systemic integrity (both functional and structural) that mean health and vigor. This alone can restore as it alone can preserve health. All else is delusion.

All rules of proper living give their highest results when carried out by individuals of sound organism. There can be no ideal health short of the ability in a high degree of each and every individual organ and part of the body to meet, at any time, the demands which are made upon it, and, as it were to be answerable to itself. Every organ of the truly healthy organism possesses a great reserve of functioning power with which to meet emergencies. Where this reserve is lacking or is sharply limited, health is not ideal.

There are certain optimal relations of the organs of the body that are essential to their smooth, harmonious, uneventful and successful functioning. For smooth and continuous vigorous function of the human body there must be an optimal lung capacity, optimal heart dimensions, optimal sizes of the abdominal viscera and optimal size and development of the muscles, etc., of the body. These optimums must fit the man or woman of any particular height if health and efficiency are to be maintained.

Ideal health is possible only in those who are ideally constructed. Ideal anatomical construction is essential to the smoothest and most efficient functioning of all the organs of the body. Given this and a life lived in conformity with the laws of life and the individual will have ideal health. All rules of proper living give their highest results when carried out by individuals of sound organism. A sound organism is not one merely in which all organs and parts are structurally sound, but one in

which the parts all fit each other.

Harmonious organizations are essential to the preservation of health and an unbalanced organism can scarcely preserve health under the best of external conditions. The equilibrium of function must be collective and not merely particular. That there must be such an optimal relation between stature and the organs of the body would not require stating were it not for the fact that nowadays this optimal relation is rarely found and we seem to be oblivious of the need for it.

Harmony of being depends upon the proper relations and coadaptations of the organs and tissues among themselves. Health is true organic poise and vigor; it is the harmony of our inner with our external relations. Internal harmony is the balanced power of our organs and structures. The equilibrium of function must be general, else general impairment is inevitable. It is not enough that some functions are vigorous. Vigorous digestion coupled with feeble hormonal function of the pancreas may give us diabetes. Healthy food grown on healthy soil is indispensable to the preservation and maintenance of an original perfection, but it cannot produce the perfection.

There can be perfect coordination of the parts of an organism, only when all of them are fully and proportionately developed. The various parts of an organism are wonderfully united and have such delicate and intimate relations and there is such reciprocal dependence of the organs of the body upon each other that it is impossible to vary the proportions of such parts in any very marked degree without injury to the whole organism. Such a result constitutes a violation of the laws of organization. A harmonious organism depends upon good heredity, appropriate nutrition and biologically legitimate conduct. Surgical interferences with the integrity of the organism upsets the nicety of physiological balance upon which the highest physiological efficiency depends.

Constitution is the term we apply to the manner in which the body is aggregated or put together. A good constitution, which is the foundation of physiological excellence, is an organism that is harmoniously and symmetrically constituted, with all of its parts sound and vigorous. A poor constitution is one that is asymmetrically and disproportionately constituted with some or all of its organs defective and weak. It is the foundation of ill-health. We have never given sufficient thought to providing good constitutions for our offspring.

We are too prone to blame upon our constitutions, faults that belong wholly or in large part to our ignorant life-routines. Few people are sufficiently aware of the frequency with which a fairly good initial endowment is impaired and wrecked by long-continued wrong living, a wrong living that is not necessarily associated with vice or debauchery. A parallel but converse mistake is frequently made. The fairly

sound health (there is probably no really sound health left among our random-bred population) due to good regimen and good conduct is likely to be attributed, by sickly onlookers, to an exceptionally good condition. They view a good example of life-mastery, and instead of wishing to learn something from it, they indolently shirk any investigation of it, by declaring it to be due to an exceptionally fine inherited organism.

CONDUCT

Integrity of behavior, on the other hand, is as essential as integrity of structure, if the maximal physiological efficiency is to be maintained. We must rely upon the laws governing the interdependent operations of the organs, and not upon surgical, pharmaceutical and physical interferences with the functions of one or several organs, for both the maintenance and the restoration of health.

The influence of good morals on health is something with which every physician and every doctor, of whatever school of so-called healing, is well acquainted. All of us have observed how much better chances of life or of recovery from chronic states, as well as from serious acute struggles, one has whose “heart” is serenely fixed upon the good and the true. This may be said to be a sunshine of being by which every good man and woman is richly repaid for his or her righteous self-direction. All who sincerely cherish and cultivate the spirit of the good life reap a rich and abundant reward in health and strength, the kind of strength that enables one to endure and conquer.

FAITH

Faith is listed as an element of *Hygiene* by Jennings, Graham, Alcott, Trall, Jackson, Walter, Page and other early *Hygienists*. When all is said and approved of, there remains a place in the life of man for faith. Indeed, the fact that man has the power of faith and has always exercised it, even though not always wisely, is justification for faith. All of man’s powers are good when rightly used and, as faith is native to the human mind, it is an integral and necessary part of human life. But faith without skepticism (which is also native to the human mind) tends to degenerate into credulity and this is what we see happen in the lives of most of the people around us.

The discovery of truth is of small importance unless it is organized in life. Faith, which certainly serves a noble role in the life of man, should be no mere passive belief, but should find its expression in all the things that we do and leave undone.

When it is thus made a part of our daily lives, when it thus becomes a living faith that, like all living things, manifests itself in works, it becomes fruitful in a thousand ways. Just as your prayer, “give us this day our daily bread,” will be answered if you do enough sweating of the brow, so your prayers for health will be answered if you put enough of the right kind of work into your effort to regain health. Just as your prayer for light will be answered if you but consent to open your eyes, so your prayer for strength will be answered if you will but meet the normal conditions of strength. But prayer and indolence will not take the place of exercise.

“Thy faith hath made thee whole” is good sense providing we couple it with the statement that “faith without works is dead.” A faith that leads to action is the faith that bears fruit... A dead faith may be preserved, in some dessicated form in the articles of an outworn creed, but a living faith must “do the will of the Father.” It will not expect to reap the rewards of obedience without the obedience. A faith that works in harmony with the laws of life, not one that transcends these and that attempts to nullify them, is the only faith that can be expected to deliver results.

Why is it that our food tastes better when prepared and served by one whom we love? Why do we experience the most exquisite inner feelings and emotional changes from the simple contact of the hand of one whom we love? Why the sudden upsurge of power and increased feeling of wellbeing from even the approving glance of the loved one? How is it that the arrival of one deeply loved often brings renewed life to the dying invalid and results in recovery. It is because there is some subtle affinity between two people in love, of which, when deprived of it or when denied its expression, organic powers sink? May it not be true that the religious man or woman derives some similar psychical change and increase of power from his love of God—any god? Does not love of and faith in anything call out or bring into activity powers within us that, except for the love and faith, must lie dormant and, perhaps, slowly wither away?

We frequently see invalids rally and recover when they have received something in which they place great faith. Indeed, the physician may administer a mere imitation of what the patient wants and demands, a *placebo*, and the result is the same. A patient does not do well under the care of a doctor of any school in whom he has no faith. This element of the human mind is as potent in preserving as in restoring health.

Whatever else we have faith in, and we all place our faith in something, we must have faith in ourselves, in our own strength and abilities, in our own powers of life and in our way of life, in what we are doing and hope to do. We must also have faith in the orderly and regular workings of the processes of life, in the laws and

uniformities of nature, and in the ultimate good of things. Faith must not only be coupled with works, if it is to lead to the highest results it must also be coupled with understanding. No amount of faith in white bread can render it fit for food, nor can faith in alcohol transform it into a non-poisonous substance. If faith is to move mountains, it must be applied with understanding.

NORMAL LIVING

Normal living involves a correct life in all of its phases. Climate and soil as well as housing, are important elements in the life of man. He has for the past four thousand years tended to collect in large cities, resembling a hive and live a very unnatural or abnormal life. His life should be lived in the open and on the land, preferably in a congenial climate. A finer climate, or serene weather and a beautiful earth call to the affections and normal instincts of man, calling us forth from that domestic seclusion, the artificial routine of which, in civilized countries, stifles our normal instincts. Civilized man needs to undergo in the temple of nature a lustration from the servile and civilized habits he has contracted in his ignorance, so that, standing in all his regenerated manhood and womanhood, mankind, redeemed in unity and beauty, may again enjoy health and life. Today people wander in a wilderness of ignorance and superstition, misery and ill-health.

THE TOTAL APPROACH

Hygiene turns physiology to the uses of body care and is exultant at the range of means to it from this source, which are competent to secure the highest results. The functions of the body are not independent of but dependent upon a few external natural conditions of life. The power of an organ or part of the body increases in the ratio to which it can depend upon its normal needs and is weakened and loses its power to function in the proportion to which it is interfered with by disintegrants—poisons.

The normal activity of all the functions of the body depends upon the supply of all the natural conditions upon which function depends and a failure in only one of these conditions reduces the effectiveness of all the other cooperative and interacting conditions. It is a symbiotic principle that a failure in any of the functions of life, consequent upon a failure of the conditions upon which function depends, results in a crippling of the symbiotic support which the failing function normally gives all the other functions of life. It should be emphasized, therefore, that *Hygiene* is no single-

method approach to the problems of life and health. It is, rather, an all out or total approach to the problems of life and constitutes a full system of mind-body care, in health and in sickness, requiring to be supplemented, at times only by constructive surgery. The *Hygienic System* embraces every directly beneficial substance and condition known and rejects nothing that nature does not also reject.

Of the combined means contributing to the needs of the body, and each essential to it, it is enough to state that it would be impossible to assign to any over the rest a superior value, the simple fact being that, each is indispensable and that health is preserved, not by one of the number alone, but through the combined employment of all of them. Food is of tremendous value, but diet is of value only in its physiological connections with air, water, exercise, sunshine, rest, sleep and the other elements of nature's hygienic plan. There are no substitutes for the normal needs of life.

It is very difficult to convince the great majority of otherwise intelligent people that drugs cannot be made to substitute for sensible eating, pure air, exercise, sleep, etc.—in short, for all the natural or normal circumstances which we know to be necessary for the preservation of health. They cling to the wholly irrational thought that when proper food or pure air or pure water are not available to them, drugs are proper substitutes therefor. Every living thing, to be healthy, must have a sufficiency of nutritive, but plain food, good water, pure air, and a proper amount of daily exercise, and must have its mind in a state of serenity and calm. Nature requires that these simple needs of life must be met if we are to flourish and drugs cannot supplant them.

V. The Laws of Life

We are in the habit of saying the Universe is governed by law and, while we shall use this convenient expression throughout this work, we desire it understood that we do not use the word law in any legislative or coercive sense. The laws of nature are not legislative enactments. Natural events do not take place in obedience to natural laws. Natural laws, as we call them, govern nothing. They are “uniformities” of nature which are classified in universal formulas describing all possible happenings of nature. Thus the law of gravitation does not govern the motion of falling bodies and the coursing of planets, meteors and suns. The law, so-called is a descriptive formula which states in the tersest way possible the mode of action which things of a definite quality will take under certain conditions. Natural laws are formulas which describe uniformities or regularities of nature. A law is a “constant mode of action of a force,” that is, it describes how the force works.

The forces of life in their operations work, as do all other forces, according to well defined laws or uniformities. Laws have no validity except as expressions of the forces back of them. The uniformities of nature are not mere haphazard coincidences but intrinsically necessary conditions. They are based on the nature of things and constitute an intrinsic and necessary part of the world-order or, rather, of the universal order. The uniformities of nature are eternal. They are uncreated and uncreatable. Natural laws are inherent in creation. Man is constituted upon and in perfect harmony with these laws. There is an inseparable and orderly relationship between the laws of nature and the highest welfare of man.

No one accustomed to observing the exact order and harmony that prevail in the world about him will question that his own body is constituted upon precise and fixed principles and that the vital machinery is controlled by express law. Dr. Robert Walter formulated what he regarded as the primary controlling law of life, which he denominated *Life's Great Law*, as follows: “*Every particle of living matter in the organized body is endowed with an instinct of self-preservation, sustained by a force inherent in the organism, usually called vital force or life, the success of whose work is directly proportioned to the amount of the force and inversely to the degree of its activity.*”

In thus formulating the primary law of life Walter followed Newton's formulation of the *Law of Gravity*. I think he followed it too closely. I would substitute “every living cell” for “particle of living matter,” for the cell is the unit of organic existence and we have no evidences that particles of matter as such are ever *living*. Even organized structures are not necessarily alive. Certain highly organized parts of the

living organism are not alive.

Every living thing, from the one-celled organism to man, is possessed of an instinct that seeks to provide for its own interests—to appropriate food, seek light, air, water, and warmth and to protect itself and avoid injury. This inherent tendency to self-preservation is essential to the existence of living organisms. Self-preservation is the primary or controlling expression of life and, normally, is subordinate to no other law except, at times, to the instinct of race preservation, in which case the individual often sacrifices itself for the protection of the young or the flock. Primarily, life seeks to preserve itself and to maintain vital integrity. All the functions of life have reference to this effort at self-preservation either of the individual or of the race. Nature aims at wholeness. This is as much true of the single cell as of the complex organism. Nor does the validity of this *law of self-preservation* depend upon the truth of any particular theory of the nature of life. It is true whatever life may be.

If vital power could be manufactured by food, air, water, and exercise, if it is the product of activity, then increased activity would be the best means of increasing the power and the inactivity of sleep would be a waste of time. “Certainly,” says Dr. Walter, “inversely as the degree of activity” is fraught with immense consequences to human health and life. It makes all the difference whether we are *increasing* or *reducing* vital power by increasing vital activity. That we are doing the one or the other no one can doubt. There can be no neutral ground in medical practice. Vital activity expends power or increases it; if the latter, rest and sleep are waste of time and opportunity; if the former, the medical practice of our day is engaged in exhausting vital power, especially through the nervous system, and should produce nervous diseases in great degree.”

As will be shown later, activity expends and exhausts, while passivity recuperates and preserves. As the vital energies are the important things in the preservation of life and recovery of health it follows that the success of the organism in doing either must be calculated “directly as the amount of the power and inversely as the degree of its activity.” The inactivity of sleep, not the excitement of “stimulation,” nor the strength of work, is the great representative process of recuperation and health.

Increased vital activity goes with reduced rather than with increased power. Quickened respiration, increased heart action, an abnormally frequent pulse, sensitive nerves, an extremely active and excited brain, restlessness of the general system, all indicate weakness rather than strength. It follows, therefore, that all care of the chronically ill, no less than with the acutely sick, must operate as sleep does—it must reduce activity and increase power, instead of increasing activity and reducing power. “It is the inactivity of sleep that recuperates power,” says Dr. Walter, “and the

activity of labor that exhausts it.”

In the organic as in the inorganic realm, there exist, also secondary laws; or “the observed order” of facts, which grow out of the primary law which produces them. Dalton’s laws of chemistry and Kepler’s laws of the heavenly bodies form secondary laws to the primary laws of chemical affinity and gravitation respectively. So in life we have certain laws secondary to “Life’s Great Law” called the *Laws of Vital Relation*. First among these we have: *The Law of Action*: “Whenever action occurs in the living organism, as the result of extraneous influences, the action must be ascribed to the living thing, which has the power of action and not to the dead, whose leading characteristic is inertia.”

Lifeless matter, considered only as such, has no power in itself to move itself, or even to sustain its own motion after that motion has been established by the temporary impulsion of an extraneous power. Neither can it arrest its own motion, but is brought to a halt by the necessary friction and resistance of materials outside itself. It is *inert*, which means it is incapable of doing anything; it cannot act. By *inertia* the physicist means the inability of bodies to initiate their own movement and their inability to arrest or change their motion, once they have been set in motion by powers outside themselves. Inertia is the leading characteristic of all lifeless matter. As all undisturbed “rest” or motion is persistent—in motion: “he get a-going and couldn’t stop”—we must cease ascribing action to the lifeless, inert, passive, quiescent materials around us.

Action is the movements or operations of a body that is capable of initiating its own movements and of both changing and stopping these. It may even direct its own actions. Action in its true sense, belongs to the living organism only. *Living is acting*. When all action ceases, there is death. The heart beats time to our breathing, from birth till death, there is no cessation, no stopping. Action is the leading characteristic of the living organism. Life is before action. A corpse is, to use the words of a fiction writer, “a bundle of useless inertia.” It is our contention that the motive power of the living organism is resident within the organism, so that its actions are not mere *reactions* to external forces and agents, but are outgrowths of inner motivation.

An animal that has a multiplicity of organs, each performing a different function, is organized, constructed and energized for work, for *action*. The many and varied actions of the body in relation to external factors are but reflections of its own complexity of structure and function. The greater the organic complexity, the more numerous and varied are the actions of which an organism is capable, so that the human body has infinitely greater capacity for action and is capable of a far greater number of actions than the animalcule or the sponge.

What Trall called the *Law of Vitality* he expressed in these words: *In the relations between the living organism and lifeless matter, the former is active and the latter passive, always.* In view of the universal inertness of lifeless matter, the ability to act must be retransferred from the environment to its proper place within the living organism. The medically-trained mind finds it practically impossible to comprehend this vital principle and certainly cannot admit its validity. It is so contrary to all that it has been taught from its infancy up that it requires a complete and thorough revolution in the mode of thinking and this is something that few minds ever undergo. It is unfortunate that false notions gained in youth so often tend to remain with us throughout life and cannot be dislodged by any amount of contrary evidence. We have the ability to close our minds and reject that which we do not want to accept, no matter how true it may be.

Life and its variable phenomena furnish the proper field of inquiry. We do not study the phenomena of life when we study chemistry and physics. A knowledge of the laws of *living action* is needed and this can be had only by a study of life in health and disease, not in the studies of the morgue. An acquaintance with dead languages and the dissection of dead bodies is not the equivalent of an acquaintance with *living action*. Without a knowledge of the laws of *living action* practice is not experience; and gray hairs and length of life bespeak only stubbornness in prejudices and ill-founded claims to deference and respect.

There is a vast difference between living and dead protoplasm. Chemically, they may be the same, physically they may present identical appearances, but they answer to different tests. The living protoplasm or the living organism possesses the power of action; dead protoplasm, in common with all other lifeless matter, does not. Lifeless matter may be moved, but it cannot move itself. Living matter can move itself and other matter as well. The action of living organisms under various conditions and when subjected to various *stimuli* does not represent the action of these conditions or *stimuli* upon the living organism, but, rather, the action of the living thing in relation to the conditions or *stimuli*. The action is from within, the power to act is inherent. When the power of action is lacking, as in dead protoplasm, there is no action in relation to changed conditions or to the application of various *stimuli*. In the relations between lifeless and living matter, the living matter is active, the lifeless matter passive. If the power is low the action is correspondingly feeble. The work of “vital force” is “*directly proportioned to the amount of the force.*”

We may illustrate the above law by the common practice of taking purgative or laxative drugs to force bowel action. The expression is common that certain drugs “act on the bowels” or on the liver or on the kidneys or act on some other organ.

Apparently this is the case, but actually the reverse of this is true. The taking of a dose of epsom salts is soon followed by a movement of the bowels. Dr. Trall's question, "which acted and which was acted upon," is a very pertinent one. The only action of which any drug is capable is *chemical action* and no one will maintain that the bowel action in this case is chemical. No one will dispute that it is bowel action. From first to last the living organism is the actor, the salts are acted upon.

Why do the bowels act: why the hurry following the ingestion of the salts? The answer is: self-preservation. The chemical union of salts or any other drug with any of the fluids and tissues of the body is destructive of them, impairing their structure and function and even resulting in death. They are *irritants* and *irritating* in direct proportion to their poisonousness. The bowels act to cast them off, to eliminate them. They but perform their God-ordained function of voiding in order to self-preservation, in hurrying the dose of salts from the body. This bowel action is vital action, as much vital action as the beating of the heart or the act of hearing, and the power of the action is inherent in the bowels, not in the salts or other drug. Vital actions are accomplished by vital powers.

Medical men speak of drugs which act on the bowels (produce diarrhea), drugs which act on the kidneys (occasion urination), etc. Reasoning, as they always do from the wrong end of the matter they attribute the power of action and of selective action to the lifeless drug, instead of to the living body. Trall combated this fallacy as follows, and incidentally demonstrated the essential nature of "disease." "A knowledge of the law of vitality would teach medical men that only living structures have inherent powers to act; that all dead things, in relation to living, are entirely passive; and that the only property they possess is inertia, which is the tendency to remain quiescent until disturbed by something else—the power to do nothing.

"The living system acts on food to appropriate it to the formation and replenishment of its organs and tissues. This is digestion and assimilation—the nutritive process. And the living system acts on drugs, medicines, poisons, impurities, effete matters, miasms, contagions, infections—on everything not useful or usable in the organic domain—to resist them; to expel them; to get rid of them; purify itself of their presence through the channel or outlet best adapted to the purpose under the circumstances."

Unfortunately, the living organism is conceived of as an instrument rather than as a force. The environment plays with the organism as it "wishes" and about all the living organism can do about it is to "react." Here is a statement that well illustrates the prevailing conception. A writer says that "colors are beautiful, not in consequence of the mere organic operation of their physical qualities on the eye, but ..." When the

present-day biologist says that “the active organism must be credited with the power of seeking out environments which suit its inborn nature—*variations included*,” he recognizes the autonomy of the living organism, although he may have denied this very autonomy on the preceding page. When, on the other hand, he says that to an altered environment or altered internal conditions the living organism responds with such modifications of activity and structure as tend, for the moment to restore and maintain the normal state, he injects a certain purposiveness into living actions.

Drugs are said to act upon the body despite the fact that they are as inert as a dry stick or a clod of earth. Confessing that they do not know the *modus operandi* of a single drug, medical men are incessantly using thousands of them as though the *actions* of all of them are well known. The *Hygienic* school denies that drugs have any of the actions—*physiologic, therapeutic, toxicologic, cumulative, synergistic, side*, etc.—that are attributed to them. We maintain that they are entirely passive in their relations to the living organism. We insist that they are as inert when taken into the body as they are while still in the bottle on the shelves of the drug store and have shown that all of the actions attributed to drugs are actions of the body in resisting and expelling the drugs.

When drugs are taken there is action. This means that something acts. If it is not the inert drug that acts, there is nothing left to act except the living acting structure of the organized body. The *Hygienic* position is that, *the resident forces in the various tissues, acting preservatively, give rise to all the phenomena that are mistaken for the actions of drugs*. As before pointed out the many and varied actions of the body in its dealings with many kinds of drugs are but reflections of the complexity of structure and function of the body. The ability to act must be duly re-transferred from the inert drug to its proper place within the living organism.

Lawrence, in his *Lectures on Surgery*, *London Medical Gazette*, Vol. V. page 769, says: “although we cannot point out the *modus operandi* of a medicine, we are not, on that account, to withdraw our confidence in its power. ‘It is enough,’ he remarks, ‘for us, in medical science, to know that certain effects take place.’”

Certainly no statement can be more absurd than this one. We cannot point out the *modus operandi* of a drug (of any drug) but we must still retain our confidence in its power to act. We cannot prove that it acts at all, but we must believe that it does act. He dares to call this blind faith, or rather, and more correctly, this blind credulity, science. “It is enough to know that certain effects take place.” Is it? Does it really make no difference how or why these effects take place, just so long as they take place? Does it make no difference, for example, whether John eats his dinner or the dinner eats John, just so long as some eating takes place? Does it make no difference

whether the *cathartic* “moves the bowels,” or the bowels expel the *cathartic*? Is it of no real consequence, in the end, whether it is the drug that acts on the body or the body that acts on the drug? Can science be based on anything except exact knowledge? Can a practice based on a fallacy be scientific? Can it be as successful as one based on exact truth?

If we analyze the actions that are attributed to drugs, we find nothing but body action. Thus, when vomiting follows the swallowing of an *emetic* the action is that of the body in expelling a poison. When diarrhea follows the taking of a *cathartic* we again see body action in expelling a poison. If a so-called *diuretic* drug is taken and urination follows, we see the kidneys expelling a poison. Instead of a cathartic acting on the bowels, for example, the bowels act to expel the drug. Nor do we have any two-way action. The drug does not first act and the body then *react*.

It is not asserted that drugs act mechanically upon the organs of the body. Mechanical action could do nothing more than displace particles. It could cut, tear or bruise the flesh. Do they act chemically? There can be no doubt that there is chemical affinity between the drug and some of the cell constituents of the body and that there is a tendency of the drug to combine with these cellular elements. Should this union take place it would mean the death of the cell; hence, the living structure resists chemical changes and, so long as it is alive, its resistance continues. It is when death has resulted from the struggle, and not until then, that poisons can act (chemically) upon the tissues—but they are then dead tissues and this chemical “action” can result in no therapeutic or physiologic or other type of so-called *pharmacological action*. To kill the tissue is not to produce physiological or therapeutical effects.

That drugs are chemical substances, hence capable of chemical “action,” we do not deny. But we do deny that the actions attributed to drugs, when these are taken into the living body, are chemical actions. These actions are of an altogether different nature from chemical actions and are on an entirely different plane. Vomiting, for example, is not a chemical action. Neither are sweating, diarrhea, coughing, expectoration, redness, swelling, narcosis, anesthesia, etc. A blister is not formed by chemical action, but as a safeguard against chemical action.

An emetic does not combine with the stomach to produce vomiting; a cathartic does not combine with the bowels to produce diarrhea; a diaphoretic does not combine with the skin to produce sweating; a diuretic does not combine with the kidneys to produce urination, a narcotic does not combine with the brain to produce narcosis. Chemical action does not take place until the tissues are dead. These may die almost instantly, so violent is the resistance offered a drug, so that acids, for example, may appear to combine with and destroy living flesh.

In his *Fallacies of the Faculty*, (P. 135) Samuel Dickson, M.D., says: “If you divide the pneumogastric nerves of a living dog—nerves which, as their name imports, connect the brain with the lungs and stomach—arsenic will not produce its accustomed effect on either of these organs.” If the “accustomed effect” of arsenic on these organs were a matter of chemical action, there should be no change in effect because of the division of the pneumogastric nerve. Cutting the nerve will not alter the laws of chemistry nor change the relationship of arsenic to the tissues of the lungs and stomach. What is lacking in the case of the severed nerve is that the power of action of lungs and stomach has been destroyed. When the power of action is lacking in these organs, the actions commonly mistakenly attributed to arsenic do not follow the taking of arsenic.

Physiologists have operated upon dogs and provided esophageal fistuli, through which the food chewed and swallowed in the regular manner passes out through the artificial opening thus provided and does not reach the stomach. When food is so chewed and swallowed, the stomach secretes gastric juice in copious amounts. But in a variation of this experiment, where the vagus nerve was cut, the “sham feeding” no longer occasioned a flow of gastric juice. Here again, when the power of action was lacking, there was no action.

These two experiments are sufficient to establish, even in the absence of other evidence, the fact that the actions seen in the body when drugs are administered are body actions, not drug actions, that they are vital, not chemical. If it is the body that acts, it is body power and not drug power that is expended, hence drugs must also waste the powers of life commensurate with the violence of the action their presence occasions.

The living organism is an active organism, having the ability to perform an almost infinite variety of simple and complex actions, both mental and physical, and all the properties which are attributed to drugs by the pharmacologist are without the faintest relevance to the intrinsic nature and *modus operandi* of the drug. All of the actions attributed to the drugs are actions of the organism, which alone possesses the power and means of action. They represent organic behaviors in relation to inert substances. The catastrophic potentialities of the drugging practice thus become painfully evident; for, it is patent that if the organism can be lured into expending its viabilities in expelling inert substances, thus squandering its energies in behavior that is subversive of its normal functions and that deflect its efforts from its primary healing activities to the expulsion of new sources of injury, then the healing process, against which the drugs are directed, may be suppressed, the patient exhausted and his life ended by the misguided effort to save him. The physician (one learned in or

skilled in the art of drugging) is thus revealed as the arch enemy of the sick.

It used to be said that drugs make impressions on the body and that the body then acts according to the impression made. The term impression is still in common use, but nobody seems to know exactly what he means by it. An impression is the recognition by the *vital properties* of the presence or contact of something and of its relation to that something. When drugs are given or applied, the impression is merely the recognition by the living organism of the drug and the effects are the results of the actions of the body upon it, not of the drug's actions upon the living system. Let a perfectly healthy man eat a potato and give another perfectly healthy man a dose of epsom salts and the actions and results that follow are not results of differences in the actions of the potato and the epsom salts, but of the differences in the manner in which the body acts upon the two substances. Neither of these substances act upon the stomach. The stomach perceives the relation of the potato to the organism; the "vital instincts" recognize it as a food, and the body acts to digest and assimilate it. The vital sensibilities perceive or recognize the salts to hold a very different relation to the body and the body acts to expel them, to cast them out. This perception of relations is *vital* and not *chemical*.

There is a vast difference between acting and being acted upon; between riding a horse and being ridden by a horse; between striking a door and being struck by a door; between throwing a ball and being thrown by a ball; between eating an apple and being eaten by an apple, between salts acting on the bowels and the bowels acting on the salts. So, also, it makes a great difference in results, whether the drug acts on the body to produce beneficial actions or the body acts on the drug to expel it lest it occasion harm. If the drug acts physiologically or therapeutically, its use may be beneficial; if the body acts defensively, the presence of the drug occasions a waste of organic power, consequently, every dose diminishes the power of the patient.

If drugs do not act, how do we account for the many pathologic changes their continued use occasions in the body? The hypertrophies, atrophies, degenerations and tissue destruction that result from the long continued use of drugs are due to the overactivity of irritation and inflammation, and to the local hyperemias, anemias and nutritional impairments occasioned by the presence of the drug in the body. They are dystrophies resulting from nutritional perversions. The waste of organized substances, disturbance of organic functions, and dissipation of physiological energies, that result from the continuous struggle to defend the body against poisons and to expel these, result in the destruction and waste that is seen. These vital actions are not designed to destroy life, but to defend it; but if the defensive action is continuous, due to habitual use of the drug, the normal nutritive processes are so

greatly impaired that life is crippled and the organism deteriorated.

The idea that poisons of various kinds are “sustaining” and “invigorating” agents is still fostered by the medical profession; but, although they may argue their senses away, they can never show how or wherein a poison can sustain or invigorate. It is certain that they never promote function; they are never used in building and repairing tissue; they form no normal constituent of the blood and lymph; they cannot be employed in the production of secretions; they must be resisted and expelled, always. They simply have no place in physiology, are not foods in any sense, and the effects of their use are always evil.

Law of Tower: “The power employed, and consequently expended, in any vital or medicinal action is vital power, that is, power from within and not from without.”

It is the living thing that acts, it is vital power, whatever this may be, that produces the action. A dose of salts or of calomel will produce no movement in the bowels of a dead man. The body of a man who is nearly dead will not act upon drugs. Why? Because the power of action is absent. It is living power, not drug power that is back of the action. Vital force is the cause of the action, the threatened danger to the organism, due to the presence of the drug, is but the occasion for the action.

Dr. Trall well illustrated this law as follows: “It is urged that, as escharotics or caustics applied to the skin occasion rapid decomposition of the structures, the drugs must, in these cases, act on the system; for, it is asked, would the living system destroy itself? Is that remedial action which results in death? I answer: Remedial action is not necessarily successful in always accomplishing its purposes. It is defensive action. It aims to rid itself of the enemy; to remove the abnormal and offending material. It may wear itself out in the struggle. It may die in the attempt. It must oppose and war upon whatever is injurious, whatever is incompatible with its functions, so long as they are present, otherwise it could not be vital. And this is precisely the distinction between living and dead matter; the dead is passive and quiescent everywhere; the living will not tolerate the presence of the dead.

“That caustic does not act on the skin any more than ipecac acts on the stomach, or castor oil on the bowels, is demonstrated in this way. Apply a blistering plaster to the skin of a healthy, vigorous young person. It ‘draws’ readily and the skin is soon vesicated. Apply it then to a feeble, pale, anemic, or dropsical invalid. It ‘draws’ with difficulty or not at all. Before it will vesicate, the skin must be rubbed with some pungent or irritant, as hot vinegar or red pepper. Then apply the blister to the skin of a dead person. It will produce no effect whatever. What is the explanation of these facts?

“If the blister acted on the skin, the effect would be greater instead of less in the

cases of feeble persons, for the reason that there is less vital resistance. But the contrary happens to be the fact. The *effect* of the blister is precisely according to the vigor, integrity, and resisting power of the living and acting machinery; and this I regard as proof positive that it is the living system, and not the dead drug, which acts. And the principle herein indicated explains how it is, and why it is that healthy vigorous persons, when equally exposed to the causes of disease, have more acute and violent maladies. Disease being remedial action, and their vital machinery being in vigorous condition, the defensive action, the disturbance, the disease, will manifest proportionally more violent symptoms”—The *Hygienic System*.

Dr. Walter used Herschel’s rules for determining the real cause of an effect, to show that this explanation is correct. These rules are:

First—Invariable connection between cause and effect.

Second—Invariable absence of effect with absence of cause.

Third—Increased or diminished intensity of effect with increased or diminished intensity of cause.

Now let us apply these rules to our law and see how it works. Our law says that vital force is the cause of the action, while the living organism is the actor. Already, we have used a dose of salts to illustrate the *Law of Action*, and we shall use it to illustrate the present. No amount of salts can “move” the bowels of a dead man. The giving of salts to the dead produces no effect. Yet, if salts were the cause of the movement we should get a movement. Bowels do not move, whatever the occasion or condition, where life is lacking. Dead bowels cannot be made to act. The more vigorous a person is, the more vitality he possesses, the more vigorous will be the action on the part of the bowels, in expelling the salts, while, if the person is very low, the action may be hardly perceptible: *In the relations between the living organism and lifeless matter the living organism is active, the lifeless matter is passive*. The action of the living is in proportion to the need for action and to the amount of *power of action* that is present. When the seductive radio voice tells you that bufferin *acts* twice as fast as aspirin, yet is gentle in its *action*, it misleads you. Neither bufferin nor aspirin have any action and the actions of the body in expelling a poison are proportioned to its incompatibility with the interests of life. *Speedy actions are never gentle*.

Every living thing is organized in such a manner that it may resist everything that is inimical to its welfare. Indeed, the power of resistance is as fundamental to life as is the power of appropriation, which is also possessed by all living organisms. Food, like drugs, is passive in its relation to the living organism. The organism procures, eats, digests, absorbs, circulates, assimilates or transforms the food, using its own

power in doing so.

If salts act on the bowels, to move them, they should always do so regardless of the condition of the bowels. But if the bowels act on the salts, to expel them, it is obvious that there will be no bowel action following the ingestion of a dose, if the power of movement is lacking. Where the power of movement is present, the movement must be in proportion to the power possessed and to the need for action. The salts cannot give power to the bowels for they possess no power to give. But they do occasion the expenditure of the power already possessed by the bowels. The same thing is true of other substances which apparently strengthen us. They occasion the expenditure of the power already possessed but do not add power. For, be it observed, this principle involves not merely the use, but also the expenditure of vital energies. Every elimination of the most “innocuous” drug occasions a waste of vital power.

The Law of Selective Elimination: — All injurious substances which, by any means, gain admittance within the domain of vitality, are counteracted, neutralized and eliminated in such a manner as to produce the least amount of wear and tear to the organism.

This law accounts for the fact that some drugs apparently “act” on the bowels, some on the liver, some on the kidneys, etc. These are the organs which are “selected” to act on the drug. Discussing this very principle, Dr. Trall says, *True Healing Art*: “And herein is the explanation of the classes of medicine, the rationale of the action of medicines, which has so puzzled the brains of medical philosophers in all ages.

“Emetics do not act on the stomach, but are ejected by the stomach. Purgatives do not act on the bowels, but are expelled through the bowels. Diaphoretics, instead of acting on the skin, are sent off in that direction. Diuretics do not act on the kidneys, but the poisonous drugs are got rid of through that emunctory, etc.”

Drug classifications are based, not on the actions—physiological, therapeutical, toxicological, and otherwise—that they perform, but upon the vital actions they occasion in being resisted and expelled. Drugs are said to have “selective action,” so that some drugs act on one organ and other drugs act on other organs. Drugs neither act nor select. The selecting, as the acting, is all done by the living organism.

Waste is excreted from the body by that emunctory which is specially adapted to the work. Urea is eliminated by the kidneys, carbon dioxide by the lungs. Neither of these organs is so constituted that it can do the work of the other. Hence, when the blood passes through the lungs these take out carbon dioxide and not urea; when it passes through the kidneys these remove urea and not carbon dioxide. Something

very similar to this is seen when drugs are taken. One drug is expelled by vomiting, another by diarrhea, another by diuresis, another by diaphoresis and still another by expectoration. Other substances, not easily eliminated through these channels, are sent out through the skin in the form of skin eruptions. Each organ seems to excrete the drug that it can handle best.

Some drugs are expelled through more than one channel and in more than one manner. Mercury may be expelled by vomiting, purging, diuresis, skin rash, salivation and in other ways. Arsenic is expelled through the bowels and kidneys and by means of skin eruptions. Certain drugs are of such a character that the body seems to try to expel them through every channel. Indeed, to a certain extent this is true of most drugs. They receive their classifications, however, from the fact that they are expelled largely through one channel or another. It is obvious that each tissue must resist and expel in some manner, every poison that reaches it. This fact of universal resistance and expulsion obscures somewhat the fact that there is selective elimination. In emergencies every tissue can constitute itself an outlet for poisons in the common interest.

The Law of Dual Effect:—“The secondary effect upon the living organism of any act, habit, indulgence, or agent is the exact opposite and equal of the primary effect.” I do not find this formulation of the *Law of Dual Effect* entirely satisfactory and have attempted the following re-formulation: *All materials which are taken into the body or which come in contact with it from without occasion a two-fold and contrary action the secondary action being the opposite of the primary one.*

This law admits of no exceptions, but applies to all departments and actions of life. Work or exercise arouses vital activity, thus giving an appearance of increased vigor as the first effect. The secondary effect is tiredness, decreased vigor, fatigue, and exhaustion. Rest and sleep on the contrary, produce as their first effect, weakness and languor, but no one doubts their recuperative value. Rest and sleep are the only means whereby recuperation and reinvigoration may be secured. But these are their secondary and lasting effects.

Power is felt only in its expenditure, never when it is passive. One therefore, feels stronger while one is growing weaker, and feels weaker when one is actually growing stronger, through recuperation of power. The man who has had a drink of alcohol is led to believe that he is strengthened by it, while, in reality, the alcohol has only occasioned the expenditure of the power he possesses. In this way strychnine may “strengthen” the heart until it exhausts this wonderful organ. A cold plunge or a short hot bath produces a general feeling of strength and well being by occasioning the expenditure of power which it does not and cannot give.

The thing which seems to give strength is the thing which is taking it away, the thing which appears to be “curing” the patient is the thing that is hastening his death, the very substances which seem to be “supporting” and “sustaining” life are the very things that are undermining the foundations of life. Following the period of apparent increase in vigor (stimulation) there comes a period during which there is a feeling of lessened vigor (depression). There are two effects following the use of every material and influence.

Invalids are frequently advised to keep up; because, if they go to bed they will lose strength. The apparent loss of strength is the first and temporary effect. The second and lasting result is a gain in vigor. Travel and excitement make the invalid feel stronger and better as their primary effect; but their secondary effect is languor, weakness, exhaustion. The invalid must be weak that he may grow strong. Sexual excitement and sexual indulgence arouse vital activity and increased strength. There is increased blood pressure, rapid heart action, accelerated breathing, greater nervous activity, a general increase in muscular activity and a great increase in the feeling of wellbeing. But as a secondary effect, languor, sleepiness and weakness follow.

A cold plunge or a short hot bath is a *stimulant*. There is an increased feeling of wellbeing, an increase of vital activity. It is always and necessarily followed by an equal amount of mental and physiological depression. Prolonged cold baths effect the body much the same as chloroform or ether. The temporary exhilaration of activity is soon followed by a decrease in function. Heart action is reduced, circulation and respiration slowed down and nervous activity decreased. Muscular activity is decreased even to the point of stopping such activity. Prolonged application of cold to the chief trunk of a nerve will greatly diminish or entirely abolish its activity. The feeling of warmth that comes with the reaction from the first shock of the cold gives way to a feeling of chilliness and cold. The apparent increase of strength gives way to a feeling of weakness and lassitude, and if the cold is continued, numbness and abolition of function follow. Anaesthesia may be produced by prolonged cold. It is a vital depressant and the feeling of increased strength with the increase of activity which comes primarily upon its application is one of vital resistance. The organism resists the cold as truly as it does alcohol or ether. Cold does not supply functional power but it does occasion its expenditure.

Moderate heat applied to the surface of the body occasions the dilatation of the arteries, capillaries, veins, and lymph vessels. This temporarily increases skin activity. If this is prolonged or repeated often the result is a weakening of the skin and lessening of its power —debility and exhaustion. This is always the result of prolonged or repeated stimulation whatever the substance or influence used to

occasion the stimulation. More will be said upon this point in the chapter on stimulation.

When an anaesthetic is administered the action of almost every organ in the body is increased—there is a humming sound in the ears, ‘light flashes’ in the eyes, increased pulsations of the heart, involuntary swallowing, increased salivary secretion, accelerated respiration, exaltation of reflex irritability and all other functions of the body are excited. This period of excitement is followed by a state of diminishing function—function continues to diminish until voluntary movements cease, consciousness fails, “reflex” movements are abolished and insensibility results.

When the vapor of ether or chloroform is inhaled its poisonous character is instantly recognized by the organic sensibilities of the parts upon which it comes in immediate contact, and the alarm is promptly spread throughout the whole organic domain. Every organ of the body is more or less powerfully and extensively affected and there is a general effort of the vital powers to resist the poisonous effects of the anaesthetic and to expel it from the system. The integrity of the vital domain is in jeopardy and it puts up a strong fight in self-defense. Under such conditions, the extent to which the physiological operations of the system deviate from their normal course, must always be proportionate to the *force* of the poisonous or injurious influence, and the physiological power of the disturbed economy. This violent action against the drug is referred to as “exaltation” of function, a “period of excitement.”

The whole organism is endangered and true to its instinct of self-preservation, every organ, every tissue, every living cell in the body enters the fight for every living cell is endowed with the instinct of self-preservation. The increased action is still vital action and the power employed and consequently expended is vital power.

It will be shown later that healthy sleep differs from the state of coma and apparent death induced by drugs, in that the organism aroused from sleep feels refreshed and renovated and is ready for action, while the organism aroused from coma is languid and exhausted and utterly unfitted for action. The reason should be obvious. Sleep is a renovating, recuperating process, its first and temporary effect being weakness and reduced function, its second and lasting effect being strength and increased function. Anaesthesia is a state of poisoning, the first and temporary effect of which is increased function, its second and lasting effect diminished or abolished function. The inactivity of sleep, not the increased activity of “stimulation,” is the great representative process of recuperation and health. The primary effect of “stimulation,” increased activity and an increased feeling of well being, produces weakness and exhaustion as its secondary and lasting effect. This is true regardless of

whether the “stimulant” is chemical, electrical, mechanical, thermal, or mental. *The degree of weakness that follows is commensurate with the degree of “stimulation” that preceded.*

Tea, coffee, cocoa, chocolate, spices, meat, etc., which appear to give strength (their first effect), invariably as their secondary and lasting effect, weaken in proportion to the strength they appear to give. Alcohol which apparently strengthens and which, for a very brief moment, occasions increased action, results in diminished function and weakness. Alcohol, like ether and chloroform, does not add power to the system. It only occasions the expenditure of power already possessed. It is properly classed as a caustic irritant and the exalted “function” which first follows its use, is not due to any power it communicates to the body and mind, but to the excited vital resistance and consequent expenditure of organic power its irritating presence occasions. Its secondary effect is due to the exhaustion of the organic powers this very excitement and resistance produce.

Medical men’s own text-books of physiology teach them that every “physiological stimulus” (irritant) occasions action which is followed by a *reaction*. Stimulation is followed by depression. Increased strength is followed by greater weakness. Whip a tired horse and he works harder, but he exhausts himself sooner. The result of the cathartic whip is a diarrhea followed by worse constipation. The failing heart sinks more rapidly after a constantly increasing dosage of any of the favorite heart *tonics*. Rales and “emphysema” increase in the lungs after the physician has been the rounds of his “expectorants.” Adrenalin chloride will “blanch” the gums, but any dentist can demonstrate to you that this “blanching” is always followed by a greater congestion of the gums.

Nothing is more certain, in chemistry, than that alkalies will neutralize acids. Yet nothing is more certain in physiology than that, after a temporary period of “neutrality,” the acidity becomes greater. Acid conditions of the stomach are treated by alkaline drugs and these always increase acidity. Alkaline mouth washes, in acid conditions of the mouth, always increase the mouth acidity. Orange juice or lemon juice occasion the opposite result.

Regular physicians dose their victims with their eyes always on the first and temporary effects, while wholly ignoring the second and lasting effects of their drugs. Homeopaths are supposed to think of the secondary effects and drug their victims with these effects in mind, but have never succeeded in explaining how drug poisoning results in health as a primary or a secondary effect.

All medical authors agree that if the use of a tonic is long continued, the effect is debility. A tonic medicine first strengthens and then debilitates. Such results are

accounted for by the law of dual effect. Alcohol permanently weakens because it temporarily strengthens. Opium using permanently produces sleeplessness, nervousness, and pain because it temporarily relieves these conditions. Give opium to “cure” a man of pain! Who has pains equal to those of the opium addict? The nomenclature of medicine needs revision. Opium and other *anodynes* and *antispasmodics* should be classed as *odynes* and *spasmodics*. The whole class of *tonics* should be classed as *atonics*. “Stimulants” should be called depressants. These substances should be classed according to their *secondary and lasting* effects and not according to their *primary and temporary* effects.

A cup of coffee will relieve a headache but in so doing it permanently fastens the headache habit upon the patient. It will relieve mental depression, but when the user is deprived of his coffee he becomes doubly depressed. Tobacco steadies the nerves only to unsteady them. Tonics strengthen only to debilitate. Purging produces constipation, diuretics produce inactivity of the kidneys, expectorants result in dryness of the lungs. If the habitual user of any drug will cease its use for a few days he will experience in their fullness all its secondary effects. If he returns to his use of the drug he will be delighted to find that these secondary effects are “cured” by it. The disease is “cured” by its cause—coffee “cures” the headache which it produced; whiskey restores the (feeling of) strength it has wasted; tobacco restores the steadiness of nerves it has destroyed.

There is no such thing as a strengthening medicine. The manner in which so-called tonics *strengthen* the body or any part of it resembles the method of marching of the corporal who used to command his squad to, “*Advance five paces backwards!*”- They strengthen us after the principle of *progress* illustrated by the frog in the well—two feet out in the morning and four feet back at night. They take away the strength they appear to give. They cause the sleeplessness they appear to *cure*. These substances enslave their victims, because of their poisonous nature, which first occasions vital activity, giving an appearance and feeling of strength, at the very time and by the same means that the patient is being exhausted. Utter destruction would promptly follow their use were it not for the *Law of Vital Accomodation*, which we shall discuss a little later. The energy of medication by poisons, is the energy of defense. Only that which arouses the organic energies to desperation occasions prompt action. The action wastes vital power and results in weakness.

The Law of Special Economy:—The vital organism under favorable conditions, stores up all excess of vital funds, above the current expenditure, as a reserve fund to be employed in a time of special need.

Power in reserve is the surest guarantee against “disease.” The body seeks always to maintain a certain reserve of power and we can get this power out only by supplying emergencies such as this reserve is stored up to meet. Thus irritants, so-called stimulants, produce an emergency that calls out the body’s reserve power in an effort to overcome these. If no stimulants are employed the body will always have on hand a reserve of power to meet other emergencies of life.

Life is rhythmic in its varied operations. Rhythm, or periodicity, is regularity or differentiation in time and regularity of structure or segmentation. Alternate activity and repose is the most obvious example of this nature. All motion, all action, is intermittent. All movements in nature are intermittent and not continuous. All advance is an advance and a recession and another advance and another recession, the advances preponderating over the recessions.

During rest and sleep the body stores up power. During favorable weather it stores up power. During unfavorable weather power is expended in defending the body against the excessive cold or excessive heat. During activity power is expended in doing work; during repose power is recuperated for future use.

The rising of the tide is an intermittent series of rises and falls, the rises preponderating over the falls. Similarly there is an ebb and flow, an alternate rise and fall, in the ebbing of the tide, but with more fall than rise. Just so, growth is not continuous, but intermittent. Indeed, there is also recession in growth. The child actually loses a little weight after gaining it. The growth and development of the body takes place by “spurts.” Periods of rapid growth alternate with periods of slow growth. The body seems to take a rest and accumulate power for the period of rapid growth. In periods of rapid growth there are new developments to be made, or incomplete ones to be finished and these things cannot be accomplished without an outlay of energy above the ordinary expenditure. In preparation for such work there always precedes a period of comparative rest, as just prior to the onset of and in preparation for puberty at which time the forces of development go forward with a rush.

Some who have been ailing through more or less of the period of childhood are carried by the force of development, which in a cyclonic fashion sweeps everything before it into health—and that, too, often in spite of wrong life, and a medical treatment that might prove fatal if administered at any other time in life.

“These health storms, typhoons, revolutions, often sweep invalids into health, starting up with no apparent cause, and carrying many victims of ill-health into physical states approximating good health.” —*Impaired Health*, Vol. 1, p. 153, J. H. Tilden, M.D.

It is as though the miller, in preparation for a busy season, shuts his sluice gates and lets the water accumulate above the milldam until he has a head of power sufficient to meet the demands of the season. We may make use of this same principle when the actions of the body falter due to lack of power. If the action of the mill falters from a decrease of water-power the gates are closed for the purpose of accumulating power. Activities are ceased and no power is expended. In cases of impaired health the closing of all the waste-gates, through which vital power is needlessly expended, permits the accumulation of power.

The Law of Vital Distribution:—In proportion to the importance and need of the various organs and tissues of the body, is the power of the body, whether much or little, apportioned out among them.

The laws of life are as fixed and uniform as the law of gravitation, or any other uniformity of nature. They are immutable, always tending toward perfection, in every particular, of the organism, whether the power which they sway is sufficient for the accomplishment of this end, or is greatly inadequate therefor. The distribution of power is under control of immutable law which wisely and minutely appropriates it where most needed and supplies organs with as much as they can use so long as there is sufficient power to distribute.

The aggregate power of the organism may be regarded as a reservoir of force, capable of being called in any direction or to any point. So, also, the aggregate nutritive resources (tissues and fluids) of the body may be regarded as a reservoir of food capable of being called in any direction or to any point as need arises. In the distribution of power and nutriment no part is permitted to suffer want so long as these are adequate; but where there is scarcity of either power or nutriment, these are distributed in a manner to assure the preservation of the more vital structures first and, then, the remaining supplies are distributed among the less vital structures.

In emergencies, as in so-called disease, the withdrawal of power from some organs or groups of organs and its concentration in other organs or groups of organs is carried out with strict regard for the highest welfare of the organism. Art cannot, by any possibility, expedite the recuperation or generation of power or increase its quantity at any given time in good health or impaired health. Art can by no possibility secure a more efficient and advantageous distribution and use of the vital powers than would be made by the vital laws if these are left to the undisturbed administration of organic affairs.

Every organ of the body has its particular and specific function to perform, and with an adequate supply of power, will do its work promptly and well. But with an inadequate supply of power it falters in its functions and fails to accomplish its work

in a thorough, workmanlike manner, yet it always does the best it can with the power at its disposal. Its calls for power will be urgent and in proportion to its needs. The *Law of Vital Distribution* will be as vigilant and discriminating in its appropriation of power when all or a number of organs are calling loudly for it, as when all parts are adequately supplied.

The Law of Limitation:—Whenever and wherever the expenditure of vital power has advanced so far that a fatal exhaustion is eminent, a check is put upon the unnecessary expenditure of power and the organism rebels against the further use of even an accustomed “stimulant.”

This is a very poor formulation of this law which I have made. However, it will serve, together with the following explanation to convey the meaning to the reader. It often happens that a physician employs a certain “stimulant” in the treatment of a very depleted patient. This seems to “work like a charm.” The patient “responds” readily. But it becomes necessary to give the “stimulant” in increasingly larger doses, and, finally, the body ceases to “respond” to it and rebels against its use. In the days when brandy was the medical man’s stand-by, after this had been given for some time in low states of “disease,” it would pall upon the senses and be loathed by the patient.

If the patient is not too low, after one drug has ceased to occasion the “desired” effects, it is usually possible to occasion these by changing drugs. But when the patient is very low, near death, no drug will occasion such effects. When “stimulation” has wasted the energies of life almost to the fatal point, the *Law of Limitation* interposes a hand and prevents their further use. The *desire* for tobacco, alcohol, opium, or other irritant ceases. There is a loathing for the accustomed drug. It is this law also that withdraws power from the voluntary muscles and from the digestive organs in acute and frequently in chronic disease.

In a later volume other examples of this will be given and it will be shown that this *Law of Limitation* is frequently enforced against one organ or group of organs, in order that the whole may be saved. It is a conservative principle which says to “stimulants,” “thus far shalt thou go and no farther.”

In their pure and perfect state, the least violence done to the nerves by “stimulants,” excitants, and disturbing agents, is felt and announced by them in full. But when they have been impaired by the habitual use of these things, a moderate excitation or flagellation with an agent such as that which impaired them just sufficient to *exalt* the sensibilities to a comfortable state is relished by the owner, while an excess of the accustomed excitation is insipid or unpalatable. But in the degree as the sensibility and excitability of the nerves are depressed and impaired, in

that proportion will it require *force of* excitation to rouse them temporarily from their depression and despondency.

So long as the power is present to act when the lash of stimulation is applied these substances are “delighted” in by the possessor of the impaired nerves. But when the necessary force is no longer present and none is available to be dragooned to the relief of the unfortunate victim of his habits, until the nerves have had an opportunity of replenishing their storehouses, then the true character of the act of stimulation is revealed in all its naked deformity and is abominated by the thoroughly depressed sensibilities.

Inveterate tobacco users sometimes get so low that the tobacco is rejected until the flagging energies are partially recuperated. Inordinate users of alcohol or tea or coffee are liable to the same changes. Women whose very lives seem to be bound up in coffee, and who think they cannot live without it, will sometimes have periods during which they loathe it. At such times they are regarded as “very sick” and they are, but they are sick because of the great depletion of their energies.

The Law of Vital Accomodation:—Nature’s Balance Wheel—“The response of the vital organism to external stimuli is an instinctive one, based upon a self-preservative instinct which adapts itself to whatever influence it cannot destroy or control.”

The living organism is capable of ordering and arranging its structures, functions, and processes in such a manner as to withstand the action of pathoferic materials and influences with the least amount of wear and tear to itself and to stay its inevitable dissolution for the longest possible time, if these materials and influences are too “powerful,” too prolonged, or too frequently repeated for it to overcome.

When the French revolutionists destroyed the Bastille they found a man who had been confined for eighteen years in one of the cells, his only bed a hatchel, a plank pierced with nails, the points of which protruded on the side on which he was forced to lie without protection from the points. The man’s sufferings had been almost beyond endurance for the first two weeks of his incarceration, yet when he was removed by his friends and supplied with a soft bed he begged to be restored to his bed of nails for he could rest nowhere else. The same kind *Law of Vital Accomodation*, which had made his hatchel endurable would soon have accomodated him to a soft bed. This law cushions the bottoms of the feet of bare-foot boys, girls, and adults, and guards the hands of the manual laborer by a similar cushion. The thickening of the skin precludes the finer exercise of the sense of touch and, in the case of the fingers, if the thickening is great, actually reduces the nimbleness of these members. This is to say, such adaptations reduce the functioning power of the part.

As every adaptation to inimical substances is achieved by changes in the tissues that are away from the ideal, commonly by dystrophic changes in the cells and tissue elements, they necessarily cripple the normal or legitimate functions of the altered parts. Such changes may be properly designated retrogressive adaptations inasmuch as they are accomplished at the expense of function. Graham called it adaptation by means of *physiological depravity*. We have in the instance of adaptation to arsenic eating the building up of impediments and units which are incapable of normal action in relation to wholesome foods or of the more violent actions of resistance to virulent poisons. So far from any genuine toleration being established, a mere expedient device is exercised which barely and woefully maintains the *status quo*. Genuine power, rapidly or slowly depending on the amount of indulgence, is steadily waning. "Toleration" to poisons is merely a slow method of dying. Instead of seeing in the phenomena of toleration something to be sought after, it is something to seek to avoid the necessity for.

Tolerance is quickly established. A callous to protect against friction is built in but a few days. But a few days are required to establish tolerance for tobacco. A different type of protection, one that is quickly built up, is the color pigment deposited in the skin to prevent excessive absorption of the sun's rays. Indeed the work of building up this color screen begins while the first few minutes of exposure is in progress.

In the same way there is a hardening and thickening of the delicate membranes lining the mouth, throat, stomach and intestine of those who habitually employ tobacco, condiments, spices, antiseptic dentrifices, mouth washes and gargles, alcohol, tea, coffee, cathartics, mineral waters, etc., and of the delicate lining of the vagina of those who habitually douche themselves with antiseptics. But this is an expensive business; this business of keeping the system accustomed to contact with irritants so that the sensibilities shall not be kept under torture by them. Such protection does not render them harmless.

The man who habitually indulges in "stimulation" would exhaust and destroy himself with but few indulgences if the organism had no means of curbing its actions against the "stimulant" and thereby lessening the expenditure of vital power. The first effect of "stimulation" is exaltation of function; if it is long continued, or often repeated, exhaustion with an almost total abolition of function results. The repeated use of the "stimulant" would soon result in death. But its use soon occasions a condition in which the organism ceases to act so readily and violently when the "stimulant" is taken. If the former amount of "stimulation" is to be received from the "stimulant" a larger amount of the "stimulant" must be used.

The first smoke or the first chew of tobacco usually occasions a very powerful action against it on the part of the organism. The young man or woman is made very sick; there is headache, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, weakness, etc. So long as the physiological powers and instincts are undepraved and unimpaired, they instantly perceive the poisonous character of the tobacco and give the alarm to the whole system. A vigorous effort is made to destroy and eliminate it and the user is forced to throw away his tobacco. But if he continues to repeat the performance the action against it grows less and less with each repetition, until, finally, he is able to use many times the original amount without occasioning such results. His system learns to *tolerate* it and adapts itself to its use as far as possible. The system soon becomes depraved and its powers impaired by the use of tobacco, its poisonous character is no longer detected and no alarm is given, rather a psychological craving for the substance is developed. The habitual use of any substance that is injurious in itself cannot in any way render it harmless or beneficial and the habitual presence of any such substance is injurious to life, even though no energetic effort is made to resist it.

What is here said of tobacco is true of other poisonous substances. Ordinarily the user of drugs such as tobacco, opium, alcohol, cocaine, etc., becomes so accustomed to their use that he is able to take at one time enough of his favorite drug to kill several non-users outright, and yet, it only produces in him an apparently normal condition of comfort and strength. There was the ancient King who, in order to protect himself against poisoning by his foes, accustomed his body to various poisons by a gradual increase in the amount taken, until, when a time finally arrived when he desired to take his own life, by poisoning, he failed in the attempt. The first effort of the living organism, in relation to adverse and inimical influences, is to overcome and destroy them. Failing in this, it attempts to accomodate itself to such conditions and influences. For what it cannot overcome, it must learn to *endure* or perish.

In chronic indigestion the body must build defense against absorption of the poisons resulting from fermentation and putrefaction of foods. But slight indigestion is required to occasion fever, skin eruptions, diarrhea, even convulsions in infants and young children. Much greater indigestion continuing day after day occasions no crisis in an adult.

Habits, gradually built and long established, cannot usually be suddenly broken. There is no immediate danger to life as a result of sudden breaking off of a habit long practiced, but it is often followed by one or more crises more or less severe as the organism seeks to accommodate itself to the changed conditions. Because a habit does not seem to be immediately destructive is no evidence that it is not destructive or that it is beneficial. Its secondary effects alone can furnish us with the clue to its

influence. A cup of coffee occasions an immediate feeling of well being while no such feeling accompanies the taking of a glass of orange juice. But when the secondary effects of these two substances are viewed, no room for doubt is left as to which of these is really beneficial and which is injurious.

Men live in almost every conceivable climate and under almost every conceivable condition, are subject to all kinds of influences and indulge in many and often very opposite habits. If given time the body is able to adapt itself to these varying conditions. Only sudden and violent changes become immediately destructive of life. We cannot quickly transfer the esquimaux to the tropics nor the Hottentot to Greenland. We can suddenly force upon the non-user the amount of alcohol, arsenic, or opium used by the habitue, only at the expense of life itself.

With a knowledge of the foregoing laws no one need be misled by the claims for the therapeutic virtues contained in some drug, serum, or apparatus. These laws form reliable rules by which to order our life. "The wise will understand."

VI. Physiological Compensation

Apparently no satisfactory formulation of the law of compensation has ever been made. Goethe expressed it thus: *“In order to spend on the one side, Nature is forced to economize on the other.”* An excellent example of this is the well known fact that a surfeited stomach comports with an empty head.

Compensation is a balancing of accounts. It is to weigh together or counterbalance. The principle of compensation seems to be universal in its application. Perhaps if we could all fully realize this important fact we would stop many practices we now carry on, end many institutions we now support, give up many beliefs we now hold and cease many strivings we now make.

That many ancient peoples had a deep insight into the working of the principle of compensation is shown by aphorisms they have handed down to us. “As ye give, so shall ye receive,” “Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap,” “Let him that would be greatest among you be the least among you.” “The rewards of life are for service, its penalties for self-indulgence,” “We derive our highest happiness from making others happy,” are only a few evidences of the recognition of the principle of compensation, or of service and counterservice.

The principle of compensation is seen in biology, not merely in the rewards and penalties meted out to organisms for (or by) their good or bad conduct (whether service or deprecation), but also in the developments of their very bodies. Darwin was so blinded by his pet hypothesis of “natural selection” that he consigned compensation to the sphere of physiology where it has, since that time, led a charmed life. He called the principle of compensation “balancement of growth” and was of the opinion that the principle of compensation “holds true to a certain extent with our domestic productions: if nourishment flows to one part or another in excess, it rarely flows, at least in excess, to another part; thus it is difficult to get a cow to give milk and to fatten readily. The same varieties of cabbage do not yield abundant and nutritious foliage and a copious supply of oil-bearing seeds. When the seeds in our fruits become atrophied, the fruit itself gains largely in size and quality. In our poultry, a large tuft of feathers on the head is usually accompanied by a diminished comb, and a large beard by diminished wattles.”

Although admitting that “many good observers, more especially botanists,” believed to the contrary, Darwin adds: “with species in a state of nature, it can hardly be maintained that the law is of universal application.” He seems to have regarded compensation as a merely casual phenomenon, occurring occasionally in the physiological economy of the organism. Perhaps this was due to his inability to fit it

into parson Malthus' struggle for existence.

In compensation there is not only a "balancement of growth," but there is a balancement of function or activity and a balancement of activity with rest. We cannot do two things at once with equal intensity. The effort to enjoy mental pleasures and sensual pleasures at the same time results in failure. As Albert Edward Wiggam says of his own experience: "hardly anything excites the taste as do salted peanuts. Yet I have tried eating while an express train was passing, and while listening to a symphony. I can scarcely taste them at all. Numerous experiments have been made on students trying to study while a jazz band was in action. Mental output is lowered decidedly." He also records his efforts to enjoy food and a symphony at the same time. He found that if his attention was directed to hearing, his sense of taste was more or less inactive. I have noticed the same thing with reference to hearing and seeing. If sounds are low and indistinct, I find I can catch them better if I close my eyes, thus cutting out sight.

Twenty-five years ago I called attention to this principle that energy cannot be expended with equal intensity in two directions at the same time and illustrated it by pointing out that it is impossible to run at top speed and work a simple mathematical problem at the same time. To run at top speed one must concentrate all attention upon running. To work even the simplest mathematical problem one must devote attention to it. Hence, one either forgets the problem and concentrates upon running, or else one gives attention to the problem and slows down. In Vol. VI of this series I shall apply this principle of compensation to *biogony* and shall show that it has as much pathological as physiological significance.

To save in one department as against special expenditure in another is a fundamental necessity of organic activity, therefore, one must expect these compensations to be not partial but integral. The organs of the body are not independent *isonomies*, but co-equal partners in a unified and correlated whole. Every organ depends upon every other organ and contributes to every other organ. What an organ may spend depends upon the adequacy of support it may receive from its physiological partners. It depends upon compensation. Perhaps it were nearer correct to say that organs have no existence in themselves but are parts of a greater physiological whole, the efficiency of which depends upon the much neglected synthetic factor of symbiosis—upon cooperation, subordination and compensation. The reserve powers of an organ are built into it by the organism, as every organ contributes its quota to the reserve stores of the body. The highest degree of physiological partnership and of division of labor, together with the exaltation of the organism we call health depend, primarily, on nutrition. The system of universal

compensation is thus seen to be as much a part of the living organism as of all things else in nature. A few examples of physiological compensation will suffice to make clear its operation in the body.

Hyperemia (an excess of blood) in one part of the body is accompanied, by way of compensation, by a deficiency of blood (anemia) in another part. In like manner the flow of nerve energy to different parts of the body is governed by the same law of compensation. Thus the empty head that goes with the full stomach. If circulation is to be carried on without embarrassing the heart there must be just enough blood to completely fill the circulatory system. If there is vaso-dilation (dilation of the blood vessels), in one part of the body there must be a compensatory vaso-constriction in another part of the body—or if a hyperemia exists in one part of the body a compensatory anemia must exist elsewhere and vice versa—if blood pressure is to be maintained. For instance, in digestion there is hyperemia of the stomach with anemia of the brain. We thus find thinking difficult after a full meal. If the skeletal muscles are active, as in work, play or exercise, there is vaso-constriction in the viscera and vaso-dilation in the muscles—thus digestion proceeds less rapidly during work or exercise. During ovulation there is congestion of the pelvic organs because of vaso-dilation in these with vaso-constriction in the rest of the body. During sleep there is an anemia of the brain, skin and skeletal muscles with hyperemia of the viscera. Digestion is better. This precise adjustment of the blood flow to the changing needs and conditions of the body and its parts is controlled by the autonomic nervous system. Two sets of nerve fibers (vaso-motor nerves) known as the vaso-dilators and vaso-constrictors so balance each other normally that this compensation takes place so smoothly and easily that the individual is never aware of it.

If you buy an automobile you get a high powered car, perhaps one hundred and sixty horse power, although you may not, under ordinary circumstances, need more than sixty horse power. You like to feel that the extra power is there to be used in emergencies or in climbing a steep hill. The added power is there to meet unusual demands. The body is not built on any pinched or skimpy scale, but, like the car, is built to meet unusual demands. Some of the organs of the body possess five to ten times as much active (functioning) tissue as they actually need; so that there is a wide *margin of safety*. Here are reserve powers and capacities that make it possible to live better and longer than we have heretofore lived. It is the possession of such reserve that enables us to abuse our bodies so long and so greatly and still live, often in a state of comparative health. In sickness nature calls upon her reserves to get us well. Unlike the engine, however, any regular demand for increased action on some part of the body occasions an increase in its size and capacity. Muscles, for example, can

grow larger as a consequence of extra work.

Every organ in the body is normally larger than it needs to be to carry on the regular activities of life. It is capable of far more work than the ordinary duties of life entail. The stomach provides secretions to meet the usual demands of digestion, but it may also provide much more secretion to meet the demands of an unusual meal. Indeed, it may provide secretion day after day to digest far more food than is needed. Ten feet of the small intestine and a large part of the stomach have been removed and life went on—in some cases with surprising vigor. In other cases life has continued with considerable vigor after the complete removal of the stomach.

The skin is able to increase its output of sweat when the external temperature or one's muscular exertion increases the need for surface radiation. If sweating is practically suspended, as when the temperature is cold, the kidneys compensate for this skin inactivity by excreting more water. Many organs of the body, like the kidneys, eyes, ears, etc., are paired. The loss of one of these is followed by increase of capacity in the remaining one. Examples of compensation of this kind that are familiar to most people are the increased acuteness of one ear accompanying deafness of the other; increased visual acuteness in one eye following destruction of the other; increased strength in one arm following loss of the other arm, etc. A few blind people have learned to distinguish colors by touch, armless individuals often learn to do with their feet and legs what their arms should have done. It is generally believed that the loss of one eye causes the vision of the other eye to improve. Although often denied, this is probably correct. It is asserted by good authority that when an eye is lost in early life, "the other eye" acquires a greater range of movement and quickness which compensates in no small degree for the loss of its companion. It is also claimed that in persons blind from early life, the power of hearing becomes wonderfully quickened. The sense of hearing of the mole is proverbial. "Pray you tread softly that the blind mole may not hear a footfall," says Caliban to Stephano in *Trinculo*. The blind fish in the mammoth cave are said to be "abnormally sensitive" to sounds.

More than two fifths of the liver may be removed and the remaining three-fifths will carry on so that the victim of the surgical vandalism will hardly miss the removed portion of the liver. One kidney may be removed, after which the remaining kidney will enlarge and carry on the work formerly done by both kidneys. I have known one patient from whom one kidney and part of the other had been removed, yet she lived and enjoyed life. The increase in the size of the lobes of the lungs following destruction of one or more lobes is also a compensatory measure. The lungs have the capacity to receive eight to ten times as much air as is usually required for respiratory purposes. They call into use this extra capacity when we run or

otherwise create a demand for more oxygen. One whole side of the lungs may be filled, as in pneumonia, or destroyed, as in tuberculosis, and life still goes on. I have two friends who lead active lives, one of them doing strenuous physical labor, neither of whom has more than half his normal quota of lungs. Both of these men have had deficient lung structure for more than thirty years.

The heart is capable of performing about thirteen times as much work as the ordinary duties of life entail, hence its marvelous power to meet the many demands for extra work that is thrown upon it. Except for this extra functioning capacity, we would never be able to run or to engage in heavy work of any type. Under conditions that would be ruinous to a machine, it continues day after day to throw three and one-half ounces of blood seventy to eighty times a minute against nine feet of water pressure. Unlike the machine, any regular increased demand for activity of the heart, results in its becoming larger and stronger, its reserve force rising with the load to be carried. Its size is influenced by the size and occupation of its owner. It is larger in large than in small individuals; and also is larger in active and vigorous than in inactive and feeble individuals.

All this is made possible, because the heart, like all other organs of the body, possesses a large reserve force which enables it, even suddenly, to meet demands that are double or more than double the usual demands made upon it. Under the usual conditions of life the body always possesses a store of reserve force. No tissue of the body is worked to its fullest capacity.

In women the additional burden which pregnancy places upon the heart may be sufficient to overcome a crippled heart, or if the heart is not too badly damaged it may be just enough to cause the heart to be greatly strengthened and improved. The work of the heart may be more than doubled by severe muscular exertion as in running or lifting. It meets this extra demand by an increased force and rapidity of contraction. If the exertion is repeated habitually the heart becomes larger and stronger just as the muscles of the arm or leg are made larger and stronger by exercise.

Reciprocity exists between the kidneys and the skin. For instance, when through exposure to cold, or due to shock, skin elimination is suspended, the kidneys increase their activities and eliminate the water and waste ordinarily eliminated through the skin. In cases of suppressed urine, that is, when kidney action is impaired, the skin eliminates large quantities of matter that should have passed out through the kidneys. In Bright's disease the skin may get rid of some of the nitrogenous waste. Near death in this disease urea sometimes crystalizes out on the skin as "urea-frost," as nature makes one last desperate effort to save life. These urea crystals form little solid

masses about the size of a pinhead, thickly clustered over the skin of the face. The intestine is also an excreting surface, and in Bright's disease is able to aid the kidneys.

Graham wrote upon this point: "The depurating organs, as I have stated, reciprocate with each other in function to a considerable extent, even in the healthy state of the body, and in a diseased condition vicarious function is often attempted. Copious perspiration diminishes the secretion of the kidneys, and on the other hand, a suppression of the cutaneous function generally increases that of the kidneys. The skin and lungs reciprocate in the same manner. Excessive exhalations and excretions of the alimentary canal also frequently result from the suppression of the function of the skin and, by whatever cause induced, they are always attended with cutaneous depression. *But the welfare of the particular parts, as well as of the whole system, requires that each organ should uniformly and vigorously perform the full measure of its own duty, because frequent excesses arising from undue determination of fluids to any one part, lead to debility of the part, and often result in impaired function, imperfect assimilation, local diseases, and general injury and death.* In this manner, sudden suppression of the function of the skin often lead to diabetes and pulmonary consumption, by causing undue determination to the kidneys (In Graham's day diabetes was thought to be a "disease" of the kidneys.—Author), and lungs, and inducing inflammation and permanent disease in these organs. The liver also suffers from all want of integrity in the other depurating organs, and its derangements compel the skin, and indeed the whole system, to make an effort to throw off the matter which it should have eliminated. Still more excessively morbid and extravagant attempts at vicarious function take place when the mammary glands and other organs endeavor to perform the duties of the kidneys. But cases of this kind are very rare; frequent enough, however, to show the wonderful resources of the vital economy in extreme emergencies and also to demonstrate the great importance of health and integrity in each and every organ." (Italics mine.—Author) — *Science of Human Life*, pp. 197–198.

Functions may be greatly increased in one direction and, by way of compensation, be equally reduced in another. Not only are functions increased or decreased, but structures also undergo similar modifications. If exercise will cause the development of larger and stronger muscles, lack of exercise will cause them to grow smaller and weaker. Compensation is ever and forever in the balance—well or sick, the law of compensation never deserts its post. Unfortunately, in our blind efforts to apply the principle of compensation we all too often substitute one kind of evil for another.

When an organ is called upon to do more work, it is strengthened for this

purpose. This is the secret of muscular development through exercise. It is the secret of “wind” and endurance through running. It is the secret of improving vision by using the eyes, of cultivating acute perception of minute differences in sounds seen in musicians.

The foregoing examples of enlargement of parts and increased abilities of parts to compensate for loss of parts and the enlargement and strengthening of parts to meet increased demands, may be regarded as belonging to the young. It may be thought that no compensations of this kind can occur in older people. While it is true that the process is seen in its greatest perfection in the young and we would hardly expect to see any enlargement of the bones in a man past fifty to give greater strength, were he to begin carrying heavy loads, yet it is a fact that compensating processes, both of a structural and functional nature are seen in older men and women.

Even enlargement of parts to compensate for the loss of other parts may be seen in old people. There is the classic example of the loss of her big toe by a woman of fifty. Six months after she regained the use of her foot, the second toe had enlarged and stood out from its fellows to such an extent that it bore such striking resemblance in size and general appearance to the big toe, that when the foot was exhibited to a class of students, the large second toe was mistaken for the hallus or big toe. The increase in the size and strength of this toe was made necessary by the increased work it was forced to do after the loss of the big toe.

An important feature of these many compensating abilities of the organism is that most of them may be set into operation immediately. The action of the heart and lungs may be increased instantaneously in answer to demand. Sweating may be increased almost equally as quickly. The kidneys are capable of immediate increase in activity, as are the various glands of the body. Rarely does compensation lag behind demand or need.

It is the power of compensation or the reserve force back of it that enables the young man to live a life of reckless dissipation for a considerable time without apparent harm. There is, however, a limit to the body's compensating powers and when this limit is reached any added burden must produce serious damage. With every increased demand for work there is a gradual diminution of the body's reserve force so that as time passes the ability to compensate for the added work gradually diminishes. One of the grand secrets of healthful living is learning to live within our limitations and not, like the improvident spender who always spends more than his income, be always on the verge of vital bankruptcy.

In all these and similar cases of compensation there exists an imperious necessity for vicarious action, and those organs and parts which engage in it do so on the

principle of self-preservation, and manifest thereby a previous adaptation to the work. Compensatory or vicarious action can in no sense be considered *fortuitous or wrong* action, but becomes, under the circumstances, the appropriate duty of the organ which performs it, and is the only course of action that would or could be *right*. Such actions show unmistakably the *unity of action* of the organs of the human body in a common cause and for a common end. They illustrate the remarkable supervision which the vital forces and vital laws exercise over the functions of the body and should lead us to exercise the greatest caution in our attempt to repair an organism which so nicely and minutely adapts means to ends, lest in our efforts to counteract what we conceive to be *wrong action* we make war upon the forces of life and injure rather than help the body. Nature aims at wholeness—integrity. Health is a positive creation. The body must be dealt with as a whole and not by fragments as is now done by a virulent kind of specialism which is so narrow that it has lost the power of discriminating and understanding the deeper aspects of being. We must repudiate patch-work.

VII. The Stimulant Delusion

Throughout all systems and methods of *therapeutics* there runs the basic error that what they call the *therapeutic actions* of their various procedures represent the beneficial actions of these things upon the body, or that they call out actions on the part of the body that are beneficial or useful in overcoming “disease.” The truth is that these so-called “therapeutic actions” of “remedies” are *actions of the body to defend it against the “remedies.”* The living organism acts in relation to everything in its environment—to useful and salubrious materials and influences to assimilate and make use of these; against non-usable and destructive things to throw them off and defend itself against these. The action against harmful substances and influences is proportionate to their harmfulness and commensurate with the power of action possessed by the affected organism. These two factors—the amount and destructiveness of the material or influence, and the powers of the organism—are the determining factors in every action except where toleration has been established.

Mistaking the defensive actions of the sick body for evidences of the beneficial actions of drugs and other supposed remedies has led physicians of all schools into the most serious and egregious errors. Perhaps in no other field of “medicine,” archaic or modern, have greater blunders of this nature been made than in the delusion that “stimulation” is a beneficial or strengthening thing. We know of no portion of the human race in any age or in any part of the world that has not been misled by the *Stimulant Delusion*. No greater delusion ever possessed the human mind than the stimulant delusion. Like the ancient idea that the earth is flat and the heavens a great chandelier-studded canopy stretched over it, the stimulant delusion is based on appearances. Man lives in the appearance of things until ratiocination dawns, after which he attempts to get back of the scenes and find out what it is that makes the wheels go around. It is then that he makes the, at first, shocking discovery that the real is opposite from the apparent. Most people in civilized countries now know that the world is round and not flat, but how many of them know that “stimulants” take away the power they appear to give. Just as vital action against the so-called stimulant has been mistaken for the beneficial actions of the “stimulant” upon the body so, also, has there been much misunderstanding of what *stimulants* are and of the different kinds of stimulants. I shall endeavor to clear up some of this misunderstanding.

Science is the reduction of natural phenomena to an intelligible order. Science must be expressed in definite terms. Careless and often studied use of an ambiguous language which confounds the deepest distinctions in nature is often responsible for

great confusion. One of the best examples of this is seen in our use of the word “*stimulation*.” There is hardly a more misused word in the English language. As commonly employed it is very accomodating and, like rubber, may be stretched into any shape desired.

The normal action of the stomach upon food is called stimulation. The exciting effect of alcohol upon the stomach is also called stimulation. The increased activity of the stomach in digesting food represents the normal performance of its function. The excited action occasioned by the presence of alcohol is the action of resistance. This action is normal, also, in the sense that it is normal for the body or any part of it to resist injury. Back of both actions is the same force—vital force—but their purposes are different. Confounding both of these types of activity under one term obscures their distinctions and leads, in practice as well as in theory, to confusion.

A material or influence that “calls out,” or provokes, or in any manner, occasions increased action in the body or any part of it, is called a *stimulus* or *stimulant*. Thus both food and arsenic are “stimulants;” although the one contributes to the renewal of the organism, while the other detracts from the substances and powers of the organism and injures it. The acceleration of function occasioned by the normal supply of glandular hormone, which is strictly physiological, is called stimulation; the excitement and resistance occasioned by a dose of strychnine, which is distinctly pathological, is called stimulation. Thus it is obvious that one word is made to cover too many and opposite phenomena. Here it is quite evident that we are dealing with two very different things jumbled together and concealed under loose, popular terms.

The absurd stimulus-response theory that now reigns in physiology and psychology is but a refurbished edition of the ancient notion that outside things first act on the body and then the body reacts. It is even held that the body is incapable of acting unless first “stimulated” from without. According to this theory the lifeless things that exist all around the living organism first act upon it and then it reacts. Under the stultifying effect of this theory, very little distinction is made between the many types of “stimulants.” Thus, it is said that every part of the body is “called into action by its appropriate stimulus.” Under this theory, taste is activated by food; salivary and gastric secretions are activated by food; the eyes are activated by light; the ears are activated by sound waves; odors activate the olfactory nerves and warmth activates the sweat glands. The presence of urine in the bladder stimulates the bladder to action while the presence of feces in the rectum has a similar activating action upon this structure. The living structure is passive, quiescent, inactive, inert until first acted upon by lifeless substances and influences from without. This view grows logically out of trying to fit the *Law of Inertia* or the *Law of Motion*, which

belongs to the field of physics, to the living body.

Whatever may be the truth about this, and I have elsewhere given reason for doubting the validity of applying the laws of physics to living structures, it is certainly inaccurate to describe the normal functional behavior of organs of the body, when in contact with their normal and wholesome requirements, by the same term with which we describe the actions of these same organs, when they are in contact with substances that are inimical to their welfare and which have no normal relation to life. To call both the normal function of vision in the presence of light and the seeing of a bright light (even in the dark) when struck in the eye by the same term is to mislead everybody. To call light a *stimulus* when it comes in contact with the eyes and then to call tobacco a *stimulus* when a small particle of it falls into the eye is to overlook the fact that in the first instance the eyes perform their normal function of seeing while in the latter the action is that of resistance and defense. The two types of action subserve different ends. The first is physiological, the second is pathological.

While the actions of the body in relation to food, light, warmth, etc., and its actions in relation to poisons are both vital, in the first case they perform their normal or physiological functions, in the other, these functions are impaired or suspended, and the action is one of defense. Let us consider, in this connection, the case of food and an emetic. When food is eaten the function of digestion is performed. This is physiological action. When an emetic is given, vomiting follows to cast out the poison. This is defensive or pathological action.

The subtle inter-organic motivation seen in the body, is classed in the same category as the goading and pricking of strophanthus; the hormones of the various ductless glands are classed as stimulants along with caffeine. This is certainly non-discriminating and confusing. We give a man food and he is enabled to do his work. We strike him with our fist and he drops his work, grabs a club and strikes back. In both cases the action was vital but the actions have different objectives and are occasioned by different antecedents. Both the food and the blow are classed as stimulants. The term stimulation is used to cover at least three groups of phenomena, as follow:

- 1.—The increased activities of the body resulting from a renewal and replenishment of its cells by nutrition—food, water, air, light, warmth, rest, exercise, etc.

- 2.—The immediate elevation of functional action when the body is subjected to the kindly influence of light, warmth, coolness, mental elation, worthy motive, ambition, the will, etc.

- 3.—The defensive actions of the body when subjected to irritants (poisons) or

excitants—drugs, electricity, heat, cold, blows, stabs, shocks, etc.

We have here three distinct groups of occasions for increased activity with at least two, perhaps three, distinct groups of effects, the increased action serving different purposes and springing from different motives. We certainly need three terms to express these things and should not confound them all under the one term *stimulation*. Let us restate this in the following manner to distinguish the three types of occasion for increased action:

1. —Those substances and forces—light, air, water, food—which supply the materials of renewal and prepare the body for increased activity.

2.—Those kindly influences—warmth, coolness, good motives, good feelings, joy, enthusiasm, ambition, determination, will, etc.— that invite or *inspire* increased action; inspire the body to exert its power and means in a given direction and enable it to mobilize, organize and redirect its forces.

3.—Those substances, forces and influences—heat, cold, electricity, poisons, violence, etc.,—that provoke or excite defensive action.

I propose that instead of calling the three types of occasions for added activity stimulants that we use different terms for each type, somewhat as follows:

1.—*Vigorants*, renewers or nutrients.

2.—*Inspirers* or tonics. It seems to me that such normal and wholesome influences as warmth, light, cheer, good motives, etc., that occasion increased and more efficient functional activity should be regarded as the true tonics, rather than drugs which only occasion antagonism and excited and hurried, but less efficient action. These factors may be properly looked upon as accessory nutrients and control factors.

3.—*Stimulants*, *excitants*, *irritants*: These are pricks and goads. They are poisonous and injurious substances and influences. There is neither nutriment nor accessory nutriment in the excitant.

In the literal significance of the term stimulation, which means to excite, it is pure nonsense to class a stimulus along with food or warmth or good motive. To say that anything that occasions increased activity is a stimulant and make no distinction between the kinds of activity that result is to blind oneself to what is taking place. It is simply a misapplication of language to the extent of calling one thing by the name of another thing and that other thing so different as to be its opposite or contradictory.

It may be asserted that the renewers and tonics also occasion destruction. It is true that all physiological action involves wear and tear; but the wear produced by normal function in the presence of sunshine or food for instance, is incidental and is destruction in appearance only—the destruction is reproduction in another form,

regeneration—for if these things appear to destroy they constantly repair, or supply materials for the repair of the injury they seem to occasion and without them the body would wither away into a cold, inert, decaying mass. In a few words, while the *renewers* and *tonics* take from the body, they give more than they take, they compensate for the losses; the excitants give nothing, and take much, they do not compensate for the losses they compel.

It may be necessary to explain our use of the word, tonic. This word is subject to many and quite wrong uses due to a misunderstanding of the true nature of tonics. Drugs which are called tonics are not true tonics. The use of heat, cold, electricity, manipulations, etc., for their so-called tonic effects is also a delusion. Drugs and drugless irritants are really *atonins*, for every one of them, if their use is continued, produces atony and weakness. They first “strengthen” and then debilitate. True tonics do not produce debility as a secondary effect.

Tonicity is health—health is the great tonic. Tonics are those materials and influences which impart a fuller vigor and stronger acting power to the organism; that is materials which by their contributions to the body slowly and permanently add greater firmness or tone to the tissues. Nothing will answer to this requirement save the natural elements of normal life.

Impairments of nutrition are the most prominent origins of general weakness; hence, a tonic is an agent or influence that promotes nutrition—a promotor. Excitants may be appropriately termed disintegrants in contrast to the renewers and tonics. All drug store “tonics” are in reality disintegrants or excitants. No tonic can be expected to confine all of its effects to one or more tissues, for in the very nature of physiology this is impossible. So, whether we are building and maintaining health with true tonics, or building and maintaining impaired health with false tonics (disintegrants), their effects are general and not merely local.

Nor does it matter whether we say that it is the vital force or vital substance that is used up or expended by excitants. That is largely a matter of terminology or nomenclature, and neither expression affects the actual fact that something essential to life is used up when excitants or atonies are employed. Fine spun theories of the nature and origin of life are interesting enough, if we recognize them for what they are; but when we come to deal with the body we want something that will “make bricks,” that will work in practice.

The renewers bring about invigoration of the body and fail to compensate for the increased action they occasion only when they are used excessively; the tonics mobilize, organize or control the increased activities they induce and are harmful only when the mental, physical and physiological activities called out by these are

carried beyond the organism's power to compensate during the hours customarily allotted to rest, sleep and relaxation; that is, when used excessively; the excitants are always destructive, their destruction being commensurate with their use.

Electrical, mechanical and chemical "stimulation" and intense heat and great cold have similar effects, are not necessary to life and are injurious and destructive in their nature. A great error has been committed in classifying the necessary and vivifying substances and influences with unnecessary or accidental and useless substances and influences. These latter do not really contribute to the normal composition of organic bodies, nor to the necessary conditions of normal function, and do not renovate their powers. A mechanical stimulus—for example, pressure—which modifies the condition of a membrane endowed with sensibility, excites, it is true, vital phenomena—sensation and, perhaps, motion—but does not vivify nor invigorate the organic forces; while on the contrary, the essential vital materials really contribute to the formation of organic matter and form essential factor-elements of its normal functions. Nutriment, for instance, is capable of being transformed into living matter and thereby vivifying it. Nutriment is the material with which growth, repair, reproduction and the manufacture of functional products are accomplished and, in the absence of all nutriment, these processes and functions cannot be carried on.

Man in a healthy state is absolutely dependent upon food and cannot continue to exist for long without it. Water and air both serve similar purposes to food and are indispensable to life. Life in the higher animals cannot continue many days in the absence of water. The complete absence of the oxygen of the air produces death in but a few minutes. Heat, which is not a substance, is especially important to life. Among the warm-blooded animals, if the animal is unable to generate its own heat in sufficient quantity as is often the case with the young, or in disease, external heat is essential. Both the plant and animal require heat in varying degrees if their life processes are to continue. Even among cold-blooded animals, if the temperature falls below certain levels the organic processes are suspended until there is a rise in temperature. Under the influence of and by the use of these materials and conditions—heat, light, air, water, food—the organic being is developed from the germ and by these same materials and conditions it carries on its processes and functions, repairs and maintains its parts; thus, the phenomena of life are equally as dependent upon these materials and conditions as upon the vital principle itself.

It should not be inferred from the foregoing that these things are always salutary in their effects and are never harmful under any circumstance or in any amount. Such an inference would be far from true. Heat in excess of the organism's power of adaptation is decidedly injurious. Light in excess of the body's need or in excess of

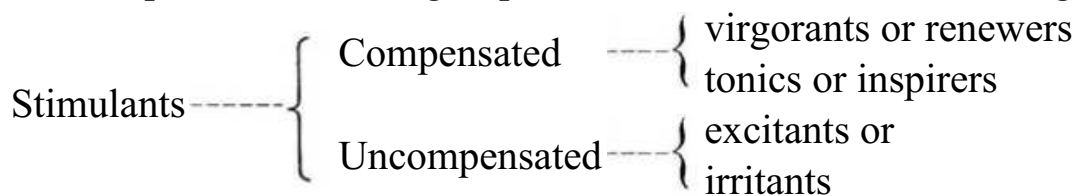
its powers of adaptation is also injurious. These things are harmful in excess. The over-activity these excesses occasion wastes the body's substances and powers beyond its ability to recuperate. The same may be said of food, water and oxygen. The amount of any of these materials required by the body at any time depends upon various conditions. Its requirements vary from day to day, from hour to hour or even from minute to minute. There are conditions, as will be shown in another volume, in which it is dangerous and injurious to feed the body. Forcing vital activity beyond the recuperative abilities of the organism is a ruinous process even when done with the normal things of life.

More than twenty-five years ago, when I wrote *Human Life: Its Philosophy and Laws*, I suggested that the *renewers* and *tonics* be called *compensated stimulants* and the *excitants* be called *uncompensated stimulants*. I there wrote:

"Making an effort to define the vital and non-vital stimuli we would say: Vital (compensated) stimuli are those substances, agents and influences which are essential to the normal existence, development, maintenance and active life of organisms and which contribute either directly or indirectly to the formation of the organic structure and to the processes and end-results of organic functions. These stimuli consist of such things as air, food, water, warmth, light, exercise, rest and sleep.

"Non-vital (uncompensated) stimuli are such substances, agents and influences that will arouse or excite action in the living organism but which are not essential to the normal existence, development, maintenance and active life of such an organism and do not contribute either directly or indirectly to the formation of organic structure nor to the processes and end-results of organic function. These consist of pressure, electricity, vibration, concussions, all drugs or poisons, etc."

Whichever terms we choose, I must insist upon the use of discrimination when dealing with very different things jumbled together and concealed under loose, popular terms and phrases. I would group so-called stimuli in the following manner:



It is essential in all efforts to explain the actions of the body in relation to useful and injurious substances that we draw a sharp line of distinction between the normal, natural, compensated, or necessary materials and condition of life and the abnormal, uncompensated, unnecessary and accidental but useless substances and influences to which the body may be subjected.

Hereward Carrington, in attempting to define stimulation, says: "We know that it

is an induced condition in which the organism can, temporarily, perform a greater amount of muscular, vital or mental work than would normally be performed in the same period of time and the increase in its ability to work is undoubtedly traceable to the 'stimulus' it has received."—*Vitality, Fasting and Nutrition*. P. 38.

I regard this statement as only partially correct. I deny, first, that there is any increased ability to work and I deny also that the increased work is traceable to the *stimulus*. The "stimulus" has occasioned the performance of more work, but it is not the source of the power to work. I do not think, however, that when Mr. Carrington stated that "the increase in its ability to work is directly traceable to the stimulus," that he intended for us to understand that the "stimulus" is a source of power. Indeed, elsewhere in the same book, he denies that the "stimulus" can add power of any kind to the body.

I deny, on the other hand, that the "stimulus" results in any increase of functioning power, or that it actually occasions any increase in function. That it occasions increased activity is patent enough, but the activity is that of excitement, of defense, of resistance. The functional output is rarely increased and when this is seen to be the case the product is deteriorated. A skilled mechanic may turn out a given amount of work a day of the highest order, but if he is forced to turn out more work the quality of his work will suffer and, if he is hurried too much, he becomes excited and confused so that he turns out less work than normally and of an even poorer quality. If we attempt to hurry a book-keeper he makes mistakes and his work is valueless. That this analogy is applicable to the practice of stimulating the organs of the body will be made apparent as we proceed. One example will suffice at this point. Alcohol is claimed to stimulate the flow of digestive juices. Dr. Trall accurately described what it does do when he wrote: "When alcohol or other poison is taken into the system, we have instead of the digestive juices, an outpouring of a watery viscid fluid (serum and mucus) from the whole mucous membrane, contemplating the expulsion of the enemy from the system."—*Alcoholic Controversy*, p. 68.

Never was there a greater or a more disastrous delusion than the one fostered by the medical profession that small doses of poisons act remedially or medicinally, while large doses act pathologically or toxicologically. The delusion consists in mistaking stimulation for nutrition, excitement for strength, vital expenditure for renewed energy. Give alcohol to a person in what is called a moderate amount and he will soon be in a state of bodily disturbance which has been called *feverishness*. Indeed, what medical men call stimulation is a feverish state—it is fever. If our works of science would correctly define and explain the word stimulation, instead of,

as now, employing it as a generic term covering a multitude of different, even opposite phenomena, the world would at once see the fallacy of employing *stimulants*.

If a drug, any drug, will give power, impart energy, restore tone, support vitality, support the heart, or prevent the patient from “running down” either during or after disease—fever for example—why will it not do so when, from other reasons, such as hard work, the individual is also in a state of weakness and debility? Do stimulants sustain or waste the powers of life? Is not this question of sufficient importance to merit thorough investigation by men of science? Is not the correct answer to this question of sufficient importance to the people that they should be given the answer?

The increase in the functional power of any organ is occasioned by its appropriate nutritional materials and conditions, within physiological limits, and by nothing else. These have been said to increase functioning power, within physiological limits, “up to the point where exhaustion begins.” It is absurd to think that we can continue to increase functioning power up to the beginning of exhaustion. Functioning power may be diminished to the point of exhaustion, but not increased to this point. We may increase activity until the resulting expenditure results in exhaustion, but this is not increasing power.

The deceptive power of all excitants is the same. They appear to give us strength. In reality they take away the strength we have. They appear to increase our capacity to perform work. They really diminish this power. They deteriorate the functional results of the organs they affect. Eggs may be stimulated so that they hatch earlier than normal but the birds or reptiles thus hatched are short lived and the earlier they are forced to hatch the shorter lived are they. Both the young of plants and animals may be stimulated so that they grow faster or larger than normal, but those so stimulated are short lived and more subject to disease than plants and animals of normal growth. Condiments excite the stomach, but they impair digestion. Sweat cabinets increase sweating but decrease elimination. Purgatives and laxatives excite bowel action but build chronic constipation. Heart excitants impair the heart. When the heart needs rest it is folly to spur it up with excitants. When one is sick excitants may hasten the exhaustion of the fund of life as readily as the body will act against them and delay or prevent recovery, but they cannot add an iota of power to the body nor hasten, by one short second of time the ultimate recovery. Here I am reminded of Trall’s remarks about the death of Prince Albert: —

“The story comes to us in the English newspapers, that Prince Albert was “kept up on stimulants’ for five or six days. No one suspected any danger. Physicians did not regard the complaint as anything serious. But, all at once, the patient became

prostrated. The typhoid set in. His system refused to ‘respond’ to any further stimulation. Why did his system refuse to respond? Because his vitality had all been stimulated away. His system needed quiet, repose; but he was kept in a feverish commotion, in an inflammatory excitement, in a constant commotion with alcoholic poison—I mean, ‘respiratory food’.— *True Healing Art*.

The following attempt to formulate what I formerly denominated the *Law of Stimulation*, but which, I now call the *Law of Excitation*, will aid us somewhat in understanding the phenomena of irritation. The reader will observe that excitation follows the law of dual effect.

The Law of Excitation:—Whenever any irritating substance or influence is brought to bear upon the living organism this occasions vital resistance and excitation manifest by increased and impaired action, which, always necessarily diminishes the power of action and does so in precisely the degree to which it accelerates action; the increased action is caused by the extra expenditure of vital power called out, not supplied, by the compulsory process, and therefore the available supply of power is diminished by this amount.

In those cases where stimulants appear to do the most good they actually do the most harm. The harm they actually do is proportioned to the amount of energy they cause to be expended and the good they appear to do is also proportioned to the amount of energy they cause to be expended.

Any excitant (physical, chemical mechanical, electrical, thermal, or mental) applied to a nerve first occasions an increase and later a decrease in the number of nerve impulses going over that nerve. There is no function without nerve impulse. Normal nerve impulses produce normal function. Excess of these reduce function through exhaustion. If sufficiently long continued, stimulation results in exhaustion and suspension or abolition of function. Irritants always exhaust through stimulation. Drugless and semi-drugless practitioners are agreed that drug stimulants are ruinous but will not admit that their own methods of stimulation are injurious unless “abused.” Abuse! The thing itself is the abuse! The drugless methods are all employed to secure the same results that drugs are used to secure. They are followed by the same depressing reaction and all of them without exception leave the patient weaker.

Carrington writes:—“There is a greater capacity for work (implying a greater nervous force being expended in such action), and it is generally known that there is invariably a ‘reaction’ or prostration, more or less profound and noticeable, following upon such stimulation. But beyond this, how much is known of the rationale of stimulation? Is it known how this extra force is imparted or given to the system?

What is the real nature of such action? And why does the reaction invariably follow? In what manner is the (apparently) added force related to its source—its stimulus? In short, why do stimulants stimulate at all?”—*Vitality, Fasting and Nutrition*, p. 38–39.

It has been said that a “stimulus” has no meaning and no existence apart from something stimulated. But this is to assume that caffeine, for example, has no existence apart from the man who takes it. That it is not a “stimulus” if it is not taken, goes without saying, but as caffeine it exists, nonetheless. As a chemical substance having certain definable characteristics, it does exist apart from the thing stimulated. It has also been said that “stimulation has no meaning apart from a stimulus.” This is granted—but this is merely another way of saying that the living organism does not become excited and seek to throw off a poison if no poison is present. It is a simple and elementary truth that everything must be related to something else and that every act of the body must be related to something. But to say that the body’s acts are related to something else is not the same as saying that the body’s acts are produced by the something else.

A completely satisfactory explanation of this increased action cannot be given until we understand the true relations of living and lifeless matter. It is essential that we know that the action of excitement is vital action and the power of this action is vital power. An excitant is a material or influence that occasions the expenditure of power, and not one that supplies the power. But in this very act the power expended is lost so that the condition of the individual after the excitant ceases to occasion the loss of power is one of weakness.

This principle explains the apparent strengthening effect of all excitants. They seem to do much good. They actually do much harm. Their real and lasting effects are the equal but opposite of their apparent and temporary effects. The exhilaration which they occasion is followed by a depression due to the waste of power that causes the exhilaration. Excitants, “stimulants,” “tonics,” all affect the body on the principle of irritation or excitement. The part or parts involved in the action rally to their own defense. Reserve forces are thrown into the field to resist the excitant. Habitual excitant users are always in danger of terminating their lives by pushing this process too far, and drawing, unwarned, the vital current below the point of recovery.

The first observable phenomenon in the initial stages of irritation is an exaltation of function in the part affected. Moderate excitement occasions a mere exaltation of the natural sensibilities. If the sense organs are affected sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell may become acute.

Stimulants are all irritants. They are stimulating in direct ratio to their irritating qualities and are irritating in proportion to their unfitness to serve any need of the

body or in proportion to their virulence as a poison. *The stimulation they afford, is the excitement of irritation and not the invigoration and revitalization of nutrition.* Following the great law of dual effect, all irritation produces its secondary effects. After a time a state of depression occurs, in which function is less vigorous than before the stimulus (irritant) was applied, or function may be temporarily suspended. The overworked and fatigued organ requires a period of rest and repose, in which to restore its substance and recuperate its energies, before it can return to its ordinary duties. During this period of weakness, inaction and prostration the organism is recovering. During the former period of strength, increased action and exaltation the organism was being exhausted.

Dr. James C. Jackson gave it as his opinion that the period of depression that always follows the “exaltation” occasioned by taking “stimulating,” “refreshing,” and “pick-me-up” drugs exceeds in intensity or duration or both, the period of *exaltation* so that their use gives, as a net result, a loss of vitality—this is, *enervation*. The feeble person should beware of the delusion that he needs stimulants. The fact is that, the more feeble one is, the less one is able to bear the draught upon one’s powers occasioned by the use of stimulants.

Both Trall and Walter fully developed a very important principle in their works, which they stated about as follows: *Under all circumstances, vitality or energy of any character whatever is invariably manifested or noticed by us, as energy, in its expenditure, never in its accumulation.* “What seems to give one strength,” Walter said, “is always making him weak, because the strength exhibited is the patient’s power being expended.” Jim Corbett sleeping, he frequently said, is no more conscious of his power than a sleeping baby. We see the power of a stick of dynamite only in its expenditure. Man may possess a great amount of potential energy but we do not perceive it until it is being expended. Just as with a storage battery, we do not see the energy. We cannot see the energy accumulating. We can only observe the active expenditure of the energy in doing work.

The energy of excitation is the energy of the body. The excitant does not add any power to the body; it only occasions a more rapid expenditure of the power already possessed by the body. In doing so it exhausts power. Hence, the inevitable after-period of depression. Whether we consider alcohol as a “stimulant” or a depressant, the following words of Trall, are true in so far as they relate to excitation and are applicable to all excitants: “✱We see how it is that alcohol is an element of force.✱ It occasions force to be wasted, that is all. ✱If a small draught is taken, only a little force is wasted (not supplied) in defending the system from it, and the individual is but slightly excited; that is, a little feverish. If much is taken, a greater amount of

force is necessarily wasted (not supplied), and greater excitement is manifest in stimulation, fever, delirium, madness, etc .”—*Alcoholic Controversy*, p. 63.

Alcohol is an excitant. I am well aware that it is now regarded as a depressant and so it is; but, so are all excitants. Alcohol is a *protoplasm poison*. It cooks (coagulates) the protoplasm of the cells just as it will coagulate the white of an egg. In small quantities it is an irritant. Irritation and stimulation are the same. Being extremely volatile, alcohol readily reaches all the tissues so that the irritation it causes is general throughout the system. Trall says: “The system expends its force to get rid of the alcohol, but never derives any force, great or small, good, bad, or indifferent, from the alcohol, —*Alcoholic Controversy*,” p. 64. “Stimulation does not impart strength, it wastes it. Vital power does not go out of brandy into the patient, but (brandy) occasions vital power to be exhausted from the patient in expelling the brandy.”—*True Temperance Platform*, p. 35.

Whether the excitation is that of the hot or cold bath, the percussion douche, electricity, massage, vibration, drugs or other excitants and “tonics,” the power which is expended goes out of the patient and not out of these things. The so-called stimulation is excitement, the excitement of irritation and consequent vital resistance. The body resists cold and heat or coffee and strychnine. It does not resist food or air.

“Stimulating” or “toning up” the body, by the drugs of the physician is, from first to last, of a piece with those means that are responsible for the break down of the system and that produce the disturbance. Drugs or “medicines” are acted on by the system on the same general principle as it acts on tea, coffee, cocoa, pepper, spices, mustard, horse-radish, tobacco, alcohol, opium, etc., and this results in the same general and particular effects as when these are used. “The effect upon the animal economy, of every (drug) stimulant,” says Dr. Oswald, “is strictly that of a poison, and every poison may become a stimulant.”

The constitutional tendency of the living organism is from first to last, upwards; the tendency of excitation downwards. The more sound and vigorous is the organism, the more it can sustain the downward pressure of excitants, while the less sound and vigorous is the body the less able it is to withstand the influence of these. These break in upon the wonderful harmony of the very complicated vital operations, whose only tendency is towards the standard of perfect health, and disconcert life’s healthy movements. But they do more than just occasion an increase in activity. They do further mischief by inflicting a positive injury upon the tissues and organs which they contact. They wound these parts and time is required to heal the wound. Indeed it is by this goading, pricking, wounding process which irritants inflict upon the cells and tissues of an organ that the organ is excited to increased action or defense.

“Stimulants” and “tonics” keep the vital machinery constantly goaded up to the height of its power.

In discussing “stimulants” for the digestive organs Dr. Oswald says: “Now, what such ‘tonics’ can really do for them is this: they goad the system into the transient and abnormal activity incident to the necessity of expelling a virulent poison. With the accomplishment of that purpose the exertion ceases, the ensuing exhaustion is worse than the first by just as much as the poison-fever has robbed the system of a larger or smaller share of its little remaining strength. The stimulant has wasted the organic energy which it seemed to revive. ‘But,’ says the invalid, ‘if a repetition of the dose can relieve the second reaction, would the result not be preferable to the languor of the unstimulated system? Wouldn’t it be the best plan to let me support my strength by sticking to my patent tonic?

“Yes, it would be very convenient, especially in times of scarcity, if a starving horse could be supported by the daily application of a patent spur. It would save both oats and oaths. Even a fastidious nag could not help acknowledging the pungency of the goad. But it so happens that spur-fed horses are somewhat short-lived, though at first the diet certainly seems to act like a charm. For a day or two the drug stimulates the activity of the digestive organs as well as the mental faculties, but the subsequent prostration is so intolerable that the patient soon chooses the alternative of another poison-fever. Before long the pleasant phase of the febrile process becomes shorter and the reaction more severe, the jaded system is less able to respond to the goad, and in order to make up for the difference, the dose of the stimulant has to be steadily increased. The invalid becomes a bondman to the drug store, and hugs the chain that drags him down to the *slavery of a confirmed poison habit.*”—*Nature’s Household Remedies*, p. 58–9.

The principle here so graphically illustrated is equally applicable to the stimulation—excitation or irritation—of any or all organs of the body and of the general system by any and all forms of stimulation. There are too many forms of drugless excitants to discuss them all here but a few examples may be given. These measures are all susceptible of being grouped as mechanical, electrical, thermal and chemical irritants. Chiropractic is perhaps the most popular form of mechanical excitation of the nervous system.

The chiropractic thrust, consisting of a quick, forceful thrust of the hand over a spinal center, is a powerful mechanical stimulus to the center or centers involved and is a very effective means of producing enervation. Patients feel better for a few minutes or hours after receiving their so-called adjustment, but there follows the inevitable reaction. Many patients are so irritated by the thrust that they are unable to

sleep during the night following the “adjustment.”

At the beginning of its short and now closing career, it was the chiropractic theory and practice to “adjust” each and every so-called subluxation which the chiropractor imagined he found along the whole course of the spinal column. This was soon found to be too much treatment for the patient. Patients were left weak from “overstimulation.” The chiropractor then divided these imaginary subluxations into major or active, and minor or inactive subluxations. Without stopping to give a satisfactory explanation of why and how a subluxation could exist without producing the theoretical impingement of the nerves; or how the impingement could exist without interfering with the transmission of nerve impulse; or how the nerve impulse could be interfered with without producing disease; or how a subluxation could be active at one time and then become inactive; or why one subluxation is active and another not; or how an inactive subluxation may become active; they advised that only *majors* be adjusted and that the *minors* be ignored. But this was soon found to be too much. It was found necessary to give patients vacations from treatment at frequent intervals to permit them to rest and recuperate. When the author was a student and was being taught all the fallacies of chiropractic he was told that: if the symptoms are growing worse and the patient is growing weaker this indicates “over adjustment.” Upon this point J. Haskel Kritzer, M.D., says: “The constant pounding upon the spinal column cannot be considered a constructive practice. The repeated spinal adjustments are productive of over-stimulation, and this in itself causes exhaustion. The patient, remembering the first exhilarating stimulus produced with the spinal treatment, craves its repetition, short-lived as the effect is. A habit is thus created for this form of stimulation upon which the individual becomes dependent as does one addicted to narcotic drugs. Who is there to discourage this latest habit-forming artificial stimulation? Surely not the practitioner who is trained not only to treat, but also to sell his course of treatment at so much per .”—*Health and Freedom Through Self-Knowledge*, “ p. 32.

Four years before the appearance of this book I talked with Dr. Kritzer, who is one of the leading “Natural Therapists,” about chiropractic, but he was certain that it was a wonder worker. While I do not claim any credit for having aided in causing him to abandon his faith in chiropractic, it was gratifying to me, when I read his book, to find that he had discarded his faith in chiropractic.

Chiropractic is but one of a great number of methods of mechanical stimulation, either of the spinal centers or of the nerve endings. Naprapathy, osteopathy, mechano-therapy, massage, neuropathy, mechanical physcultopathy, spondylotherapy, spondylopractic, etc., are all means of mechanical excitation. Like

chiropractic they are each and all wasteful of the nervous energies. Mechanical physcultopathy frequently employs thermal excitation (heat and cold) of the spine along with the mechanical means while spondylopractic employs heat and cold, electricity, vibration, concussion, etc., as well as all the above named mechanical or manual measures to excite the nervous system. These methods of excitation are not one bit different in their effects from any other stimulating method. They produce an exaltation of action as their primary effect and a depression of action as their secondary effect. If the excitement is repeated often enough the depression becomes permanent. In this particular all excitants are alike. Playing with excitants is a losing game. The sweetness of the excitement is not worth the bitter reaction. Like drug excitation, all the above means of excitement require a progressive increase in the size of the "dose" if they are to continue to occasion their usual amount of excitation.

That what is true of the foregoing methods is also true of all electrical "stimulation" as of all other "stimulation" (irritation and excitement), will be seen from the following statements contained in Bulletin, No. 8, page 1, published by the E. R. V. Corporation, 439 Fort St., Detroit, Mich.: "In taking electric measurements to determine the actual potential of a human being or the relative potential difference of one area of the body with another, or one organ as compared with another organ, we have found that certain specific readings can be obtained on a Galvanometer. Tests made under electrical stimulation—this includes any form of known electro-therapeutics—will reveal at once that this potential can be raised considerably, often as high as sixty per cent, but will go back to its original or normal, in most cases, within ten minutes after such stimulation has been given. In fact, it will more likely go below the original existing normal. These are facts. Other experiments have shown and I have just finished observing these in a local hospital and a Chicago institution, that any form of electro-therapeutic treatment will give tremendous reactions, noticeably in the form of haemoglobin counts, urinalysis, observations of heart beat and respiration, in the early stages of treatment. Then will come a period when these reactions will diminish to nothing, and if the patient has been cured in the meantime, well and good. If the patient has not been cured, all the medication, electro-therapeutics or manipulation will be useless, for the simple reason, that, the patient's system has been stimulated to the zero point of reaction and there is no more capacity left to respond."

This fact is worthy of special note and is applicable to all excitants:—(1) The period of excitation grows progressively less, and (2) The depression of the reaction grows progressively longer and more intolerable. The forces of the system are wasted. The power of action gradually wanes. How often have I seen patients worn

out and left completely exhausted by a few minutes of mental treatment! Does not every drugless practitioner know that if he is to continue to secure the same amount of stimulation with electricity, for instance, he must continue to increase the size of the dose, just as the physician has to do with his drugs or the tea drinker must do with her tea? The same is true of eating. Those “foods” and “drinks” that are most stimulating (exciting), such as tea, coffee, cocoa, chocolate, spices, meat, etc., invariably weaken as a secondary effect. The weakness produced by these correspond with the strength they appear to give. Only the normal materials of life may be safely used and these only within the immediate needs of the organism.

The victims of the “stimulant habit” mistake irritation for invigoration. It is this deception that leads the dyspeptic to drive away his blues with the fumes of the weed that caused his sick-headaches. It is analogous to the pot-house habitue who attempts to drown his cares in the source of all his miseries. The depression following the period of irritation is mistaken for a craving for the drug. There is no such thing as a craving for a drug. The pains of the opium addict are the outcries of damaged nerves as they come out from under the *anesthetic influence* of the opium. The use of such substances weakens, impairs and damages the nerves. They are soon rendered unable to act against the drug. By-and-by the jaded system fails to kick against the spur. The poison-slave is forced to employ larger and ever larger doses or else resort to other and stronger irritants.

Graham truly wrote: “All stimulants, I have said, increase the vital action of parts with which they come in contact, and when they are powerful and the quantity considerable, and the organ or part on which they act an important one, such as the stomach, their local effects is sympathetically felt by the whole organic domain, and the whole system is thrown into an increased action by sympathetic excitement or irritation. Substances that act in this manner are called local stimulants. Others are rapidly taken up by the absorbents and diffused throughout the body, exciting every part to increased action by their immediate presence. These are called diffusible stimulants. But while the stimulation produced by these different substances, when the system is accustomed to them, is identified in the mental consciousness with that which is produced by the natural and appropriate stimuli, giving a sense of satisfaction and increased vigor and enjoyment yet the physiological action which they cause is of a very different character. The natural and appropriate stimuli of the system always excites the parts on which they act to the performance of their function, and the stimulation which they produce increases the functional energy of the organ. But the action caused by those foreign substances which are used purely for their stimulating effect, is the action of vital resistance or what is called vital

reaction—a rallying of the vital forces to resist and repel and expel the offending and disturbing cause. This stimulation, therefore, while it lasts, though it increases the feeling of strength, and to some extent the muscular power of voluntary action, yet it never in any case increases the functional energy of any of the organs concerned in assimilation and nutrition, but, on the contrary, always diminishes the functional powers of these organs, and retards their functions and deteriorates their functional results.”—*Science of Human Life*, p. 607.

It is quite obvious from what has gone before that this process of excitation is an exhausting process and that the weaker the organism, or any part of it, the more reason there is for withholding excitants. We seem stronger in proportion to our outlay of force, but we are actually growing weaker thereby and the weaker we grow the less force can we afford to expend. We appear wealthy, not by the money that we have in the bank, but by the wealth we display. But the more wealth we display the smaller our bank fund grows and the smaller this grows the less can we afford to display our wealth. The weaker the body is, the greater is the necessity for conserving its forces. Carrington rightly observes: “The law of action and reaction is one of the most misunderstood laws in the Universe. The weaker the person is, generally speaking, the more he feels he must do for himself; in order to gain strength; what, he does not know exactly, only he must do something—actively! But this activity must obviously mean energy expended, and consequent loss by reaction! We cannot force recovery; that truth cannot be too emphatically insisted upon.

“The very fact that he is weak indicates most plainly, in reality, that he must do nothing, and the importance of his doing nothing is exactly proportionate to the extent of his weakness. The delusion that ‘something must be done,’ in cases of sickness is the cause of hundreds of thousands of premature deaths. The fear of being obliged to wait passively; the lack of faith in the healing powers of nature, is one of the greatest causes of medical malpractice of today. We must bear in mind always, that no action can possibly occur without an equal and opposite reaction; that the pendulum of human energy cannot, by any possibility, swing in one direction indefinitely; but must, at some time, turn and swing in the other. Rest must always follow effort, and effort rest; and this law of rhythm applies, of course, to the human body, so is it not most obvious that the digestive organs need their period of rest—just as all our other organs call for rest? And is it not obvious, also, that the only way in which such a rest can be furnished is by fasting. The common sense aspect of this argument should, I think, appeal to every one of my readers.” — *Vitality. Fasting and Nutrition*, p. 42–43.

Upon this same point Graham, after discussing the effects of irritating or

stimulating “alimentary” substances upon the organs of the body says: — “And if by any means the organs have been reduced to a state in which they seem to require something more than the natural stimulus of the food, to excite them to the performance of their function, then are they really so much the less able to bear the action of the pure stimulants, and so much the less qualified to perform their functions with integrity; and the consequence is not only exhaustion, but irritation and debility, and the development of disease.” — *Science of Human Life*, p. 298.

The weaker the patient the greater is the need to do nothing, and yet it is precisely at such times that Heteropaths, all cults, seek to do the most. Dr. Jennings tells of a Dr. Shelton who found in cholera cases that those which “responded” to calomel recovered while those which did not “respond” invariably died. He foolishly attributed their recovery to the calomel. Jennings rightly interpreted this experience to mean that those without sufficient vitality to act against calomel did not have enough power to recover, while those who had sufficient power left to reject the calomel had sufficient vitality to recover. But who can say that some of the other cases would not have recovered had no calomel been given them. For, as Jennings said, the calomel “merely acted as a test, showing where there was power to come up, and where there was not; while its whole force was expended in direct hostility to the vital economy, and affected no real good.” — *Philosophy of Human Life*, p. 118.

When there is a “pinching scantiness of motive power” and nature is trying by every possible means to conserve her energies, it is criminal folly to stimulate those energies away. It is in extreme cases of exhaustion and depression, and these are brought on by much excitation, that the true nature of excitants is seen. There is no longer any power to act vigorously in the body and the excitant fails to provoke action. Could better proof be offered that the power of action is in the body, not in the excitant.

Dr. Jennings said, “Oh if the veil of obscurity that hangs over the whole subject of stimulation could be drawn aside for a short period, until the world could get a fair view of the tremendous evils connected with it, it would stand aghast at the appalling spectacle! In virtue of the perpetual and universal sapping of the mainsprings of life, caused by the uncompensated exhaustion of the nervous energies by the action of stimulants, humanity is reduced to and kept in, a condition in which its three mortal enemies, ‘the world, the flesh and the devil,’ find it very easy to subject it to their sway.

“Stimulants might be used to some advantage or satisfaction as tests of vitality in some dubious cases of disease, if the operation did not involve an irretrievable loss, to a proportional extent; of the vitality of essential organs on which the experiment is

made, just at the time when it is hazardous to have it diminished.”— *Tree of Life*, p. 171.

“Stimulants,” he declared, “increase action, but diminish the power of action.” “They can arouse action when there is reliable power to be called forth” and “in the same proportion, they diminish the power of life” of the organs whose activity they increase. They “always leave less of power in any part on which they expend their action, than there was in that part before they acted upon it.” “If you stimulate largely, you exhaust largely. If you have a moderate stream of excitation, you have a corresponding steady stream of exhaustion”— *Tree of Life*.

“The action upon the human system of poisonous substances— and all irritants or stimulants that furnish no building material towards its construction or repair, are included in that category—is uniformly and unavoidably deleterious under all ordinary circumstances, in health and in sickness, and more injurious in a diseased or impaired state of the system than in its healthy condition, and in proportion to the feebleness or vitality of the part or parts on which the action of the noxious or poisonous substances is expended.”— *Philosophy of Human Life*, p. 239.

Graham rightly wrote: “The stimulation produced by these various substances is always necessarily exhausting to the vital properties of the tissues on which they act, just in proportion to its degree and duration; and every stimulus impairs the vital susceptibilities and powers, just in proportion as it is unfitted for the real wants of the vital economy, and unfriendly to the vital interests.

“But whatever may be the real character of the stimulus, every stimulation to which the system is accustomed increases, according to the power and extent of its influence, what is called the tone and the action of the parts on which it is exerted, and while the stimulation lasts, it always increases the feeling of strength and vigor in the system, whether any nourishment be imparted to the system or not.

“Yet by so much as the stimulation exceeds in degree that which is necessary for the full and healthy performance of the function or functions of the organs stimulated by so much the more does the expenditure of vital power and waste of organized substance exceed for the time the replenishing and renovating economy of the system; and, consequently, the exhaustion and indirect debility which succeed the stimulation are always necessarily commensurate with the excess✱

“The pure stimulants, therefore, which of themselves afford no nourishment to the system, and only serve to increase the expenditure of vital properties and waste organized substances by increasing vital action, cause, while their stimulation lasts, a sense of increased strength and vigor; and thus we are led by our feeling to believe that the pure stimulants are really strengthening and in the same manner we are

deceived by even those pernicious stimulants which not only exhaust by stimulation, but irritate, debilitate, and impair by their deleterious qualities.

“The feeling of strength produced by stimulation, therefore, is no proof either that the stimulating substance is nourishing, or that it is salutary, nor even that it is not decidedly baneful.”— *Science of Human Life*, p. 353–54.

It is by such processes that physicians seek to sustain the sick. Processes that exhaust the well and build disease in the vigorous are thought to be of value in restoring health and vigor to the sick and weak. The apparent increase in vigor after administration of the excitant deceives and deludes the ignorant, however well educated they may be. Dr. Oswald rightly observes: “In sickness stimulants cannot further the actual recovery by a single hour. There is a strong progressive tendency in our physical constitution; Nature needs no prompter; as soon as the remedial process is finished, the normal functions of the organism will resume their work as spontaneously as the current of a stream resumes its course after the removal of an obstruction.”— *Physical Education*, p. 248.

This strong upward tendency in the living body and the naturalness of the healthy condition is our guarantee that, where health is possible, it will be restored as quickly as is consistent with the welfare of the body. Excitants can but delay the ultimate recovery of the sick. Pathology, when once established in the system, can only be removed by the constitutional economy of the living body, that is, by the natural functioning of its several organs. Every move of the body, in disease, as in health, is toward the preservation and improvement of life. Every possible means of conserving energy is resorted to in “disease.” The whole of the existing practice is opposed to this conservation.

Innumerable are the lives that have been snuffed but by the efforts to “sustain” the patient, or “sustain” the heart, with excitants. Alcohol, strychnine, digitalis and other such excitants have many deaths to their credit because of their use to “sustain” life. Health is not to be restored or life preserved by measures that impair health and destroy life. How much longer must the Heteropathic professions continue their vast experiment before they find this out?

“Eight hours of sleep,” says Dr. Oswald, “are sufficient to restore the energy expended in an ordinary day’s work. Extra-ordinary efforts, emotional excitement, sensual excesses, or malnutrition (either by insufficient food or dyspeptic habits), induce a general lassitude— a warning that the organism is being overtaxed. Repose and a healthier or more liberal diet will soon restore the functional vigor of the system. But during such periods of their diminished activity the vital powers can be rallied by drastic drugs or tonic beverages— in other words, by poisons. The

prostrate vitality rises against a deadly foe, as a weary sleeper would start at the touch of a serpent; and, as danger will momentarily overcome the feeling of fatigue, the organism labors with restless energy till the poison is expelled. This feverish reaction dram-drinkers (patent dram-drinkers especially) mistake for a sign of returning vigor, persistently ignoring the circumstance that the excitement is every time followed by a prostration worse than that preceding it. Feeling the approach of a relapse the stimulator then resorts to his old remedy, thus inducing another sham revival, followed by an increased prostration, and so on; but before long the dose of the stimulant, too, has to be increased, the stimulator becomes a slave to his poison, and passes his life in a round of morbid excitements and morbid exhaustion—the former at last nothing but a feeble flickering up of the flame, the latter soon aggravated by sick headaches, Vapors, and hypochondria.”—*Physical Education*, p. 247.

Would you, then never “stimulate?” (excite); you ask. If the principles here laid down are correct, and who will dispute them, there is never a time when excitation is not hurtful. In the human constitution the sum of unrepaired injuries by excitation, though small and insignificant in their separate capacity, in a number of years amount to serious injuries, greatly crippling the vital operations, thus keeping them constantly depressed to a level far below what should be the normal so that they are easily thrown into “derangement” by fatigue, an unusual meal, exposure, etc. After repeated excitation has brought the functions of the body to this low state it is worse than folly to attempt to sustain or restore these functions on more excitation—irritation. “The vital forces have no element of laziness in their composition,” declared Jennings, “and, of course, do not need even ‘a little jogging’ to remind them of their duty.✱ There can be no hazard in extreme cases, in leaving the disposition of natural force to natural law, for whatever may be the extremity, all that can be done to save life, within the ability of organic power, will be done to the last particle of vitality.”—*Philosophy of Human Life*, p. 94–5.

An enervated body needs rest, not the goad. Recuperation of power, not the dissipation of its energies, is its greatest need. It is capable of regulating its own internal affairs and conducting these in the manner that best serves its present needs. But the physicians will not permit. If it isn’t functioning to suit them they force it to do so—not by correcting the causes of its “abnormal” action, but by exciting and inhibiting its functions.

VIII. The Safeguards of Life

During World War II American air force men were taught that if they were shot down or were down from other causes in the tropics or on some of the South Sea Islands and were lost for some time, they were not to eat the fruits that they would find growing in these places without first ascertaining that they were non-poisonous. They were advised to watch the monkeys and to eat only such fruits as they saw the monkeys eating. If the monkeys ate it and were not killed, it was safe for man to eat.

I think that we may be perfectly safe in assuming that primitive man, and I mean real primitive man and not modern savages, did not learn what to eat and what to avoid by watching the eating habits of monkeys and apes. Primitively, he no doubt possessed the same protective instincts and powers of discrimination as those possessed by the lower animals. Indeed, he is not totally devoid of such powers of discrimination at present, although his senses and his discrimination have been so badly abused and blunted that they are far from normal. Perhaps they are normal or nearly so at birth, but we do not reach adulthood with normal powers of discrimination.

All the living structures, however varied, have but one purpose, namely, that of preserving the conditions of normal life internally. Sensations and instincts have as their basic purpose the same production and preservation of normal internal condition. Sensation is man's protector and educator. To deny the senses, as do Christian Scientists, is to deprive oneself of one's greatest means of self-protection and almost one's only means of education. Without the five senses, mind fails to develop. Pain and discomfort call our attention to things and circumstances detrimental to our wellbeing. To deny the reality of pain, to disregard it, to smother it, is to deprive ourselves of one of our most useful means of self-protection.

Breathing, circulation, digestion, nutrition, excretion, in fact all of the most important functions of life, are in the regions of the subconscious. When man breaks in upon these with his broncho-busting, Indian-yelling, drug-poisoning, surgical-vandalizing, bull-in-a-china-shop "scientific" methods of "immunization" and "cure" and with his many and varied biologically and physiologically illegitimate habits, he all too often wrecks and ruins what would otherwise be a fine organism. Amid all the noise and hubbub of "science," the "still small voice" of the subconscious cannot be heard. The poisoning of the physician, the vandalism of the surgeon can both destroy health in the well and prevent recovery in the sick. They can kill but they cannot preserve and they cannot restore health.

The conscious functions of the body serve primarily to protect and provide the

needs of the subconscious functions. If we listen to the demands of the subconscious for food, water, air, rest, sleep, activity, warmth, etc., and provide these as demanded, we have fulfilled our conscious function. When we arrogantly assume to meddle with the subconscious functions of the body, stop pain with hypodermic needles, retard or accelerate heart action with drugs, speed up bowel action with the lash of a cathartic—we are fools that rush in where angels fear to tread.

The body's intolerance of poisons serves as a safeguard of health. Our total disregard of our discriminating instincts and our habit of camouflaging poisons with sugar or other substance that slips them by the sentinel of taste, has served to destroy the nicety of discrimination by which we are enabled to select those substances that are of use to the body and reject those that are useless, hence injurious.

Viewing the intensity of the disgust of the undepraved instinct for poisonous and unwholesome substances and the strong tendency of the undepraved individual to run from them, it becomes impossible to escape the conclusion that some powerful influence has served to break down these natural or normal safeguards of the organic citadel and cause man to take repugnant substances into his body over their protest, not only with disdain for his discriminating instincts, but with the thought that he is actually doing himself good.

Man's state of awareness is his protector, at least until he evolves sufficient reasoning power to protect himself by deliberate intent and knowledge. But false "knowledge" has so led him astray that he has lost the power to rightly interpret the language of his senses. He is prone to ignore and to defy the warnings of instinct. What powerful psychological influence caused man, initially, to ignore the promptings of his normal instincts and take such materials into his body over the prompt and vigorous protests of his instincts, as tobacco, alcohol, tea, coffee, turpentine, arsenic, and the thousands of drugs of the physician? We observe the physician worrying his patients with the most repulsive substances he can obtain from all the kingdoms of nature. Nauseants, irritants, purgatives and other virulent poisons, from the very contact with which the human organism shrinks and shudders with horror, constitute his "medicines." We not only see patients taking such substances gladly, but see fond mothers holding the noses of their babies in order to force them to open their mouths so that they may pour these same poisons down the protesting throats of babies whose instincts have not been perverted. We see manufacturing drug houses, with devilish ingenuity, sugarcoating their poisons so they may be slipped past the sentinels of nose and mouth. Why do people ignore their instinctive protests against such substances? Why do loving mothers thus torture their babies? The answer is that they have been made to believe that substances against

which the body rebels with all its power are beneficial and *curative*. The ancient magician (shaman or medicine man) first taught man to ignore his normal instincts and take into his body substances that are antagonistic to life and against which the body always puts up a stiff fight. In the case of the social use of such things as tea, coffee, tobacco, alcohol, etc., social pressure and the lies contained in the advertising of such products by profit-hungry ghouls who care naught for human welfare, help to perpetuate and spread such evils. Magic is the key to ancient evils; commercialism is the key to modern evils. As magic and commercialism have formed a modern marriage of convenience, we see the evils intensified.

Before the gustatory nerves have been abused they have exquisite discrimination in tasting and appreciating the flavors of foods; before the olfactory nerves have been abused they have exquisite discrimination in smelling foul and pleasant odors. But when these sentinels, that have been placed at the entrances to the body, have been abused with tobacco, tea, coffee, alcohol, hot and cold substances, drugs of various kinds, overeating and by many other means, their powers of discrimination are impaired or lost and our special sense interpretations are lost. To the extent of the degeneracy of these senses are mental and physical efficiency lost. If the senses are our educators, they are better educators in a state of perfection than in a state of degeneracy or of complete paralysis. Mind and body development must be in keeping with the health and status of the senses.

Without our senses we would have no power of protection—without the power of feeling, we could drink a gallon of boiling water and not know it was hot. How important, then, are the senses. Nerves are as essential to enjoyment as to protection. Pleasure is a feeling of the nerves as much as pain. Our ability to suffer and our ability to enjoy are co-equal abilities. When we have, by abuse, reduced the power of the nerves to sense the presence of inimical substances, we have by just that much reduced our power to enjoy. We may state it this way: Our ability to enjoy is an accurate measure of our ability to suffer; or, conversely, we may say that: our ability to suffer is commensurate with our ability to enjoy. Thus, it is not the ability to suffer, but the need for suffering that we want to escape. Not only must we avoid those things that are intrinsically inimical to the highest welfare of the body, but we must also avoid those excesses of pleasure which produce discomfort, distress, pain and, ultimately, serious diseases.

So far I have considered primarily the special senses and their essentially protective character. There are *general senses*, “organic instincts,” that are also protective and are equally to be rightly interpreted and their normal promptings obeyed. We are as guilty of disregarding the warning signals of these general senses

as we are of defying the cries of outraged special senses, only because we have been taught to ignore and defy them.

A daily supply of food being necessary to our lives, and a specific relation of quality and quantity obtaining between the food and the integrity of our lives, it should not surprise us to find that the stomach and viscera innervated from the solar plexus, give rise to feelings of well or ill-being according to their state and to the appropriateness of substances put into them. The stomach and nervous expansion on its mucous surface is a delicate center of reception. Its sensitiveness is not disease, but a state favorable to true criticism and to dietetic improvement. That there may be and often is a morbid sensitiveness of the stomach goes without saying, but the delicacy of the normal stomach makes us aware, not only of the fitness for our use of the food or other substance swallowed, but also of the fitness of the whole organism for the reception of food. Even our emotional states are registered there and this causes us either to relish and digest, or to fail to relish and digest our food, according to the kind of emotional state.

In general the viscera and the ganglionic system connected with them constitute the center of life-sustaining actions whose control we must obey. This collection of organs and their varied functions have been called, in animals, the “vegetative soul,” which, by its combined functions, provides for nutrition and reparation of tissues and supplies the basis and materials of the processes and functions of the body as a whole. These organs are not equipped with nerves of special sense, but they do have means of communicating their protests to the consciousness of their owner. Indeed their protests are frequently louder and more disagreeable than a commensurate amount of evil evokes in the special sense organs.

Actions which have been prompted by a surplus of nutritive material and vital energy; this is to say, actions that originate within us; are Certainly good for us. (By surplus of nutritive material and vital energy in this connection, is meant materials and energy that have accumulated beyond what is needed to adequately sustain internal organic function). Because such action, when unvitiated by external stimulation (excitation)—as from drugs, poison-habits, etc., or from the pressure of necessity, the will of another, etc.—is regulated in its expenditure by the supplies on hand and, because timely rest and sleep preclude exhaustion or organic impairment, this spontaneous activity can never, of and by itself, lead to enervation and impaired health or sickness. But by disregarding our normal sensibilities and keeping the body goaded and pricked with poisons, or by driving it to ever greater effort in our desire for money and thrills, we waste the precious substances and energies of life, thereby producing weakness, suffering and premature death.

IX. Health—Its Conditions and Requirements

*“Nor rank, nor crown, nor power, not wealth
Weigh ‘gainst the worth of Radiant Health!”*

Health is the normal condition of life. Perfect health is an ideal state. The condition of the body is not fixed—static. It fluctuates continuously. Health may be represented by a waving line, the waves of which rise up to good health or dip down to poor health as the conditions of life change. The health standard of civilized man is a decidedly low one when contrasted with that of so-called primitive man where he exists far away from the haunts and contaminations of civilization. There are many reasons for believing that the health standard of modern man is far below that enjoyed by primitive man.

The word health is derived from the Saxon word *haelo*, meaning whole, entire. From this word is also derived the word holy. Health originally meant *wholeness*, *integrity* and, perhaps, in the beginning, referred to freedom from obvious bodily wounds and injuries. In the absence of any knowledge of the deeper and more obscure vital processes, it is hardly probable that the early coiners of words had any reference to these when they coined the term health. But word meanings change and widen as knowledge advances and the meaning of the term health has grown with the growth of knowledge of physiology. Indeed, its meaning is still widening as knowledge increases.

Efforts have been made to define health as the “useful, efficient, and harmonious production of energy—a matter depending more upon general functional harmony and perfection than upon anatomical integrity.” Health thus becomes “working capacity” founded largely on a chemical basis. The deficiency of this view of health becomes very apparent when we listen to the heart and detect a leaking valve, indicating that, as a consequence of a lack of anatomical integrity, the heart is inefficient. Harmony and “efficiency of function depend more upon integrity of structure and harmony of parts than the chemist can ever realize. The human body is a marvelously complex organism and it functions as an organism, hence the importance of the integrity and harmony of all of its parts.

Perfect health requires perfect form, with due correspondence and correlation of all parts of the body, soundness of all structures, perfect functioning of the organs of the body individually and severally, maximum resistance to all unfavorable influences in the environment, and an astonishing power of recuperation after injury. Graham defined health to be the “correct condition and action of all the vital powers

and properties” of the body and said that “this necessarily involves the proper development, and correct operation and condition of all the organs, tissues and substances” of the body. This is a comprehensive definition that goes far beyond the knowledge of physiology possessed at the time Graham wrote. An ideal of health has been offered which demands that each individual organ of the body shall be equal in a high degree, at any time, to the demands which are made upon it, and, as it were, answerable for itself. This ideal is contained in Graham’s definition.

The term health is constantly used in a comparative, but seldom indeed, in a positive or complete sense. According to the *Hygienic* view there is no such thing as tolerably or comparatively *good* health; every degree of departure or divergence from a full measure of health, being a step or a degree towards “disease” or deterioration. I must insist that what we term degrees of health may with equal appropriateness, be called degrees of sickness.

With the enthusiasm of unitary accord and the refreshment of alternate and cooperative labor, the organs of the body, whose blood rushes and revels through the capillaries of our translucent tissues, energized by appropriate food and adequate rest and empasioned by a worthy aim in life, produce and maintain for us a standard of health that makes itself known, not alone by surging energies, but by a feeling of comfort that transcends the power of description. *Living matter* is in a state of awareness; if this state of awareness is one of comfort, we may be said to be in a state of health. A feeling of comfort is not a negative feeling. It is not a state in which you feel nothing. This is either paralysis or death. Comfort is a positive state—one in which there is a feeling of wellbeing, of buoyancy, a joyous feeling that makes you want to jump and play like the child. The comfortable person is cheerful and radiates his cheer. Health of this kind is not afraid of its environment. It is not laid low by heat, as heat stroke is for sensualists, gluttons, inebriates and invalids. Health that is not proof against wet feet or a gust of cold air is not worthy the name.

Health, not disease, should be our prime interest. The schools of physic have not been interested in health. “Alas,” as Reinheimer exclaims, “health does not constitute their profit, but disease.” For this reason they have never studied health and the conditions upon which it depends. “They that are whole have no need of a physician, but they that are sick,” places the emphasis upon health, where it belongs. Health is man’s normal state, a state which every energy and every function of life is struggling constantly to attain and maintain. It follows, as the sun follows the night, upon the heels of right living. Health and the best means of promoting it cannot be studied in the sick; but the conditions and materials of health are best studied in the healthiest specimens.

Health and disease are not accidents, but developments out of law. Just as the same law of gravity carries a balloon upward under one set of conditions and brings it back to earth under another, or floats a ship under one set of conditions and sinks it under another; just as it is the same chemical affinity that preserves a stick of dynamite under one set of conditions and explodes it under another, so the law of life produces and preserves health under one set of conditions and produces and maintains disease under another set of conditions. There is no change in the law—only a change of conditions under which the law operates. A knowledge of the laws of life and the conditions under which they operate to produce their many and varying results makes health and disease matters of our own choice. We can have the one or the other as we supply the conditions for the one or the other.

When we know the law and understand it, when we know how to obey it or to conform to it in every particular, when we know the conditions under which it operates to produce the many and varied results, then will it become a source of joy and of blessings rather than a stem, implacable and unsatisfying taskmaster. Obeying the law will become a hearty and enjoyable privilege that will provide us with fullness of life and superbness of health. The joys of the past will be eclipsed in that day when knowledge of the law and the conditions of its operation shall be the common property of everybody. This will bring joys until then untasted and unknown; joys before which the false joys of disobedience and indulgence fade into nothingness.

If the laws of life are complied with—if the conditions of healthy life are present—there is no power known to man which can prevent him from manifesting superb health. If these conditions are not present, the body must manifest as much health as the conditions present will permit. If health is already impaired, and the laws and conditions of healthy life are complied with, there is nothing that will prevent the living organism from returning to normal health, unless the destruction of vital parts or exhaustion of vital power has progressed beyond the body's power of repair and recuperation. Its healthward movements will be as inevitable and spontaneous as the rise of a depressed cork to the water's surface after the weight that holds it down is removed.

Health is potential in life. Its realization depends wholly upon an observance of the simple laws and conditions upon which life depends. The requirements of life are few and simple and if these are complied with and all hindering influences removed, health, by virtue of this inherent effort of the living organism to preserve its functional and structural integrity, will always be the result. It may be either the result of a fortuitous concourse of favorable circumstances or of an intelligently

ordered life. Intelligent direction is preferable.

Health is spontaneous. This is to say, it is the legitimate and inevitable result of the normal operations of the organs and functions of the living body. Every organ in the body is constituted to commence its normal and healthy action from the first and perform it spontaneously throughout life. They are constituted for health and unless impaired or prevented by violated law will, from the beginning of life, perform their functions with all the regularity of the sun in a natural and vigorous manner, because they cannot do otherwise. Their powers are astonishing. They are often capable of continuing their healthy functions in spite of being habitually abused and outraged and, even after they have been thus broken down, they still endure the abuse and go on year after year till one wonders that they yet live. It requires great and long continued abuse of the body to impair its healthy function sufficient to produce that state of impaired health known as disease. Few realize how much abuse they are in the habit of daily heaping upon their bodies. Yet in spite of this abuse many live on to eighty or a hundred and enjoy what now passes for good health. Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs that poison and gradually undermine the constitution are used by millions. Many drink, often to drunkenness, for years, without destroying their health, although they greatly impair it.

Every organ in the human body, if not impaired or defective from birth, or from causes operating after birth, is capable of performing much more work than is necessary for the life of the organism. The heart and lungs, for instance, are capable of greatly increasing their work if one is called upon to do a hundred yard dash or even a ten mile marathon with a trolley car or a bear. The kidneys are capable of increasing their activities and taking up part of the skin's work if, for any reason, the skin fails in its duties. The skin, when one is subjected to great heat or to vigorous muscular effort, is capable of increasing its activities many times. The stomach, liver, intestines, bowels, etc., are all capable of doing much more work than the actual needs of life require. The organs of a normal body are capable of carrying on the functions of life under all ordinary circumstances without strain, so long as they are not impaired by some cause or causes.

A fact unknown to physicians and laymen alike is that all the functions of the body are performed with as much promptness, regularity and efficiency, as under existing circumstances, is compatible with the safety and highest welfare of the body. In "disease" and in "health," that is, so long as life continues, every organ and tissue of the body is at its post, ready and disposed to perform its particular function, to the full extent of its ability. They do good work when they have the power to do so, and when lacking in power to produce a perfect work, must do the best they can. When

the law of gravitation becomes confused and causes water to reverse itself and run up hill of its own self, then will we expect to see the vital laws permit the organs of the body to take on wrong action.

Nature seems to have done her best to bestow vigorous and uninterrupted health upon all living things. She has constituted them for health and supplied them with a wonderful amount of physical stamina and energy. There would seem to be no more need for ever becoming sick—for ever being in any other state than that of good health—than for refusing to breathe or see or eat. Life is made for health and under normal conditions health is as inevitable as the rise and fall of the tides. Living organisms cannot be otherwise than healthy if the conditions of health are present. It is easier to have good health than to have poor health.

The functions of the body are performed spontaneously and automatically with as much promptness and regularity as necessity demands or ability permits. Vital functions are perfect whenever this is possible; but when influences have operated to impair the structures and functions of the body, functions are as good as they can be under the circumstances. Function needs no prompter. The vital forces do not require to be reminded of their duties. The laws of life are as ceaseless and uniform in their operations as the law of gravitation. We may safely permit the functions of the body to do their own work in their own way, in the lowest stages of impaired health as well as in the most vigorous states of health.

Prof. O. S. Fowler used to illustrate the spontaneousness of function by the story of the little boy who inadvertently whistled in school—and, who, upon being scolded by his teacher, replied that he didn't whistle, "it whistled itself." The professor, after reciting this story, would say of the organs of the body: "It breathes itself, sees itself, moves itself, sleeps itself, digests itself, thinks and feels itself, everything itself;" and breathes, sees, feels, thinks, digests, moves and does everything exactly right so long as the proper conditions are fulfilled. Indeed, as the Professor often pointed out, the organs of the body perform their functions normally with less difficulty than they do abnormally.

It is not difficult to breathe or to breathe right or enough or to breathe wholesome air, but it is difficult to refrain from breathing or to breathe too little or to breathe a noxious atmosphere. It is not difficult to eat or to eat enough. It is not difficult to eat healthful foods. These things are easily accomplished and what is here true of breathing and eating is equally true of every function in the body. Every organ is constituted to commence its normal and healthy action from the first and perform it spontaneously throughout life and they are so constituted that they can function normally much easier and with much less waste than they can function abnormally.

The organs of the body are normally carrying on as agents in a delicately balanced, complex process of internal or physiological symbiosis, involving a great amount of mutual control. For wherever we have physiological units standing in a relation of symbiosis to each other, the function of every single member of the physiological community is strictly controlled, according to the requirements of the whole organism. The very evolution (ontogenesis) of the organism has been pre-eminently along co-operative lines.

The organs of the body, living and working together in a relation of symbiosis, a relation where there is a division of labor and mutual aid, would seem, of necessity, to be mutually “aware” of each other, so far as their several correlated needs are concerned. They manifest a readiness and willingness to minister constantly to the needs of other parts. Organs must depend upon the mutual support of other organs—their symbiotic partners—for their functional powers and for legitimate or normal control of their functions. Not upon treatment, not upon forcing measures, not upon “aids to nature;” but upon internal and external (norm) symbiosis must function depend.

The ancient fallacy that we have to function for the body or at least, must compel it to function for itself, is so firmly rooted in the minds of almost everybody, that it is difficult to uproot it and replace it with confidence in the operations of natural law. The average person easily becomes panicky if functions are not proceeding as he, in his infallible wisdom, imagines they should. “Stimulants” to function—“aids to nature”—are even employed by many who are convinced that they are in good health; but who believe that functions should still be assisted. There are “aids to digestion,” forced deep breathing, forced sweating, laxatives or enemas to hasten or force bowel action, means of “compelling sleep,” vaccines to “stimulate the production of anti-bodies,” and other ways of forcing function.

To the student who understands the principle of *Orthopathy* (see vol. 6); that is, that “Nature is always upright—moving in the right direction,” in “disease” as in “health,” is always adjusting means to ends, that she functions spontaneously, automatically and lawfully; there can be nothing strange or startling about eschewing forcing measures and depending on the organs of the body to perform their own functions in their own way with as much promptness and regularity as possible consistent with the general welfare. The organs of the body can no more violate the laws governing them and act in any other than a right or “erect” way than the earth can arrest or reverse its motion, or than gravity can throw stones upward. Their action is and of necessity must always be right action. In the lowest stages of impaired health as well as in the highest stages of dynamic health, their action is one and

immutable.

From the moment of conception until death, every living cell, tissue and organ of the body strives ceaselessly and urgently in the direction of the highest degree of health. If the organism is well, the effort is always to maintain and improve its health. If health is impaired, the effort is always to surmount this condition and restore good health.

Though the function of an organ is a special act, yet the conditions for its continuance are coincidentally transferred from parts quite beyond that of its exercise—from the whole organism. Nothing, therefore, short of a general integrity, based on the evolved harmony between symbiotic partners, will avail. We must rely upon the laws governing the interdependent operations of the organs of the body, and not upon interference with the functions of one or two organs. We must aim at integrity—wholeness. The vitality of every part of the organism is maintained through conditions at a distance from it, and often apparently not directly connected with it. Every organ contributes to and cooperates with every other. “An organism is itself a monument to the cooperative principle.”

The body is no mere aggregate of cells—it is an organism; that is, an interacting and interdependent whole. It is no mere compound of its diverse organs. Its organs are only differentiations within the whole. Its unity is preserved in the differentiations. Each organ in its work supplies its own needs, lays up a reserve fund for itself and contributes to the general reserve of the organism, in addition to supplying, through its special functions, the immediate needs of the body. It should be obvious then that health and vigor depend not alone upon the perfection of the organism but upon the congeniality of the conditions under which life exists.

The physician who confines himself to the automatic distribution of pharmaceutical preparations and who does not rise to the position of reformer and instructor of his patients; who does not educate the sick and show them their general and special mistakes in eating and living generally that have caused their intoxication and culminated in sickness; who does not lead them back to health by teaching what errors they must avoid and mapping out for them a plan of general hygienic living; who does not make the patient realize that progress is up to himself, that he must exercise his own intelligence and cooperate with nature and that the return to health is a matter of individual reform, and that no one can take the place of the patient and correct his living for him, no one else can deserve the desired progress, and that he cannot count exclusively upon the help of others, that health cannot be received from the hands of another; such a physician is a menace to his patients and to his community.

It may be broadly stated that the conditions and requirements of health are the conditions and requirements of life. In its broader sense, life, the state of being alive, is a condition in which animals and plants exist with capacity for exercising their functions. Perfect life is that condition in which these functions are exercised perfectly. Death is the cessation of life. Between these two extremes of perfect life on the one hand and death on the other, are found all those various degrees of health and impaired health which exist today. From this stand point both health and impaired health are states or conditions of being or life.

Briefly stated, health consists in the correct condition and action of all the vital powers and properties of the living body, and this necessitates the proper development and vigorous function of all the organs and tissues of the body and a close adherence to the laws and requirements of life. It is the normal state of all organic existence and always obtains where the laws and proper conditions of life are observed.

Each individual organ of the body has its own appropriate work to perform. It must perform this function so long as it has power to work. If it has a sufficient amount of power it will work perfectly. If its supply of power is inadequate it must do the best it can. The liver, for instance, must secrete bile if it has the necessary power, and do the best it can under the circumstances, if power is low. It is so constituted that while it possesses power to act at all, it must act in a given direction and in no other. The same is true of all other organs and tissues of the body.

Observe the painstaking labor nature has put forth to construct the body and all its organs and tissues with a degree of perfection unknown to the human work shop. The organs are perfectly constructed for the work they are to perform and their functions are no less perfect. Indeed, this structural perfection was expressly devised to secure a corresponding perfection of function. The flow of health from such organs is as natural as the return of the river's water to its ocean home.

We see, then, that the essential element of health is the healthy condition and function of the organs of the body. Full health of the body consists not in the full development and vigorous activity of some of its parts, but in the full development and vigorous activity of all of them. These organs and their functions are preserved in their highest integrity by a strict conformity to the laws of life and are impaired and destroyed by every violation of these. "Life and health are proportionate to each other," said Prof. Fowler. "Viewed in any and all aspects, *Health is Life*"

The universal tendency of all organic existence—animal or vegetable—is towards health. This healthward tendency is as unceasing as time itself. This tendency is an inherent property of living matter or protoplasm. It is a necessity of existence. It is

inseparable from life. Every organ and tissue in the living body is striving ceaselessly to maintain itself in as ideal a state as possible. To this there is no known exception. Life strives always toward perfection. *“It is as natural to be healthy as it is to be born.”*

“As from roots wide-spread, deep and sturdy, springs the oak in pillared strength,” so from the most basal principles of organic existence springs that condition of the living organism denominated health. Dr. Emmet Densmore well sums the matter up in the following words:—“Health is the undeviating expression of animal (indeed all organic) life, always concomitant where the conditions natural to the animal are undisturbed.”

In general terms it may be said that one’s health depends upon the body as it was inherited and upon what one has done or is doing with his or her inheritance. Many are born with inherited structural weaknesses which cannot be entirely overcome. There is such a close harmony and inter-dependence existing between all parts of the body—one part with every other part and every other part with the one—that if one part is weakened or impaired the whole body suffers more or less.

The specialization of organs in the body is for mutual service and general welfare and involves industry, frugality and regularity on the part of each and every organ. So great is the dependence of the whole body upon some of its parts, such for instance, as the brain, lungs, heart, etc., that if they are destroyed or if their functions cease death results instantly. Sound health and vigorous function of the body, therefore, depend upon the proper development and harmonious operation of all its parts and not merely upon the vigorous action of one or two organs. The body is a unit not a mere aggregate, and functions best as a whole rather than by parts.

The student should keep ever in mind that the human body is not like a doll, made up of separate parts and materials with no vital connection. No part of the body can be affected independent of the other parts. Each organ has its particular function to perform, yet no organ can perform its function independently of the others, and no organ can sustain itself by its own function alone. The alimentary canal digests food for the whole system, the lungs supply oxygen and throw off carbon dioxide for the entire body, the kidneys excrete waste and toxins for the whole system, the heart and vascular system carry blood for the whole vital economy. Such is the dependence of each organ upon the whole system and of the whole system upon each organ that the function of no one organ can be impaired, without involving the whole system in the consequences. The body is a community of interdependent organs, every part of which is vitally essential to wholeness and the highest degree of health and vigor.

Present day specialism in medicine treats each part of the body as though it were

an independent *isonomy* with no special community value attached to it. Organs are removed on the theory that this can be done without any special injury resulting to the rest of the body. There are no useless organs, however, and, while some may be removed with less serious consequences than others, perfect health is never possible after one of the body's organs is removed. The disastrous consequences that invariably followed the removal of tonsils and ductless glands should have shown medical men the error of their ways. Instead, it only led to the creation of another field for specialism and now there exists a brand of specialists who regard the human body as a few ductless glands and a few unimportant appendages.

The loss or degeneration in an individual or breed of any one of the positive features of its species results in an increased liability to disease, shortened life, decreased fertility and a higher death rate in the young. The maintenance of the normal reciprocal balance of all the organs and parts of the species constitutes full physiological perfection, and when any part or parts are impaired or wanting this balance is impaired. The evil resulting therefrom is over and above the mere deficiency in parts as shown by the lessened fertility and constitutional vigor in the individual. How much of the constitutional weakness that exists today can be overcome by proper selection of wives and husbands remains to be discovered. Just now those who busy themselves with human genetics are not concerned with this problem except indirectly. In fact, they seem not to have recognized its importance.

What is called natural selection is, at best, only a struggle against degeneration. It should be known that the adverse conditions which occasion natural selection, do more than kill off the weakest. They also cause a degeneration, both of those which have barely escaped extinction and of the stronger and more vigorous. For instance, if what Darwin called the "directly injurious action of climate" kills off the less hardy, less fit, it will also produce degeneration in the more vigorous and most fit. This fact Darwin saw, saying: "in going northward, or in ascending a mountain, we far oftener meet with stunted forms due to the directly injurious action of climate, than we do in proceeding southward, or descending a mountain."

Natural extinction carries off—not those whose constitutions are merely impaired, or those which are merely degenerate in structure, for multitudes of these do actually survive and produce others with similar defects—but those only, whose impaired constitutions, or whose defective structures, are absolutely incompatible with prolonged existence. A penalty is visited upon each individual organism commensurate with the degree of its departure from the normal. This is true whether the departure is inherited or acquired.

Briefly, if the seed, egg or ovum of plant or animal is to develop into the being

that exists potentially in it, certain conditions are essential. These are moist heat, air, water, food, and protection from violence. When the young bird emerges from the shell, it still must have warmth, air, food and protection from violence, plus light. The young plant just coming up through the soil requires the same. Given these they develop into full grown birds and plants.

The same is true of human beings. They require light, air, water, food and freedom from violence. They, like the bird, also require exercise and rest, sleep and cleanliness. Given these as required the baby develops into a wholesome well formed man or woman; provided other elements are not introduced to retard, subvert and prevent development. Health is potential in life and under normal conditions is, barring accidents, as inevitable as the rise and fall of the tides. Living beings cannot be otherwise than healthy if the conditions of health are present. But it lies in man's power to place himself under conditions other than those of health and these impair his health.

Nothing short of a general integrity, based on the established harmony between symbiotic partners, will avail. Surgical interference with the integrity of the organism upsets the nicety of physiological balance upon which the highest physiological efficiency depends. Integrity of behavior, on the other hand, is as essential as integrity of structure, if the maximal physiological efficiency is to be maintained. We must rely upon the laws governing the inter-dependent operations of the organs, and not upon surgical, pharmaceutical or physical interference with the functions of one or several organs.

X. Health Standards

As startling as the announcement may be to many of my readers it is nevertheless true that medicine has built upon the phenomena of “disease,” rather than upon those of health and has argued from artificial and largely pathological processes as to the norms of nature. This was inevitable. So long as man was healthy he did not feel the need of study. When he suffered or was ill, his present state of disease and not the prior state of health, demanded his attention. “Disease,” not health, presented him with the problems that demanded solution. In the very nature of things, *medicine* got started wrong and has never changed its course. It is still, today, studying disease and ignoring health. Medicine studied ailments and not health-sought after signs and symptoms of pathology rather than the expressions of wholeness and integrity.

For ages the study of disease has progressed. One by one the various symptoms and symptom-complexes that are presented by the diseased human body have been studied with painstaking care and praiseworthy minuteness, both upon living and dead bodies. Pathology has reached a degree of perfection unknown to most of the collateral sciences that form the science of biology. Knowledge of pathology increased by leaps and bounds after the invention of the microscope, until today, pathology is the one most important study of the medical student. Physiology, anatomy, histology, etc., are all made subservient to pathology. The study of “disease” has held the student fascinated for ages.

Health has received scant attention. Strange as it may appear, health has been considered of so little importance as to be unworthy of investigation. No schools ever existed for teaching health. Medical schools existed to train the student in a knowledge of disease and *cures*. Even today no school exists that has as its purpose the teaching of the conditions and requirements of health. The conditions of a healthy life are but little understood by the various healing professions and still less so by the general public. Health is not in the technically professional line of the physician.

In the care of the body we should have a standard of health and physical excellence to serve as a measuring rod to enable us to know when we are really at our best. This standard should be a high one. The present health standard is a false one. A true health standard should be the highest possible degree of healthy action in a perfect organism. Anything short of this is impaired health—“disease.” In this view, the highest action in the most perfect human organism of which we now know is a condition of “disease.” That is, mankind is sick, is far short of perfection, and those whom we call healthy are just a little less sick than those whom we call sick or, to put it more naturally, those whom we call sick are only a little less healthy than those we

call well.

Impaired health, or disease, is simply a lessened degree of the action of the organs of the body, taken as a whole, than is performed by these same organs in the highest state of health, together with such impairments of structure and function as flow naturally from depressed action.

Too many of us are content with a rather low standard of health—are quite well satisfied with the possession of so-called average health. Yet there was never a greater fallacy than the belief that what mankind is in the average represents what he should be in the ideal or the normal. As a consequence of our satisfaction with a mere modicum of health we are less than half alive. We pass through puny childhood and weakened adolescence to inefficient manhood and womanhood and premature senility or early death.

To combat the wide-spread degeneration of our race is a serious task and a vastly different matter from the usual patching up of a “diseased” body. Only radical and properly directed efforts will avail here. Unless a high standard of health is adopted we are not likely to seek to apply the methods the condition requires.

The physiologist, at least, should study health; but physiology is still regarded as a part of medicine and, as such, is subordinate to the needs of the physician at the bedside. Both physiology and anatomy are mere aids to the study of pathology and symptomatology. Instead of busying himself in efforts to establish biological norms and the bionomic factor? upon which these norms depend; the physiologist contents himself with determining mere statistical averages, as seen in overstimulated and diseased individuals living the un-biological life of our decadent civilization. Only comparatively recently have a few physiologists made any study of normals and, even yet, they are not clear about what these normals depend upon. The English physiologist, Haldane, avers that the “normals” are the “expression of what the organism is” and means by normal “not what is average, but what is normal in the biological sense.”

He insists that recent studies of the persistent and constant behaviour of the parts of the body in all important life-functions requires an entirely new interpretation of physiology and that, physiological and biological studies generally seem to make clear the existence and maintenance of an articulated or organized normal running throughout all the detail of physiological action and reaction and anatomical structure. He points out the almost incredible constancy in the composition of the blood. Similar constants or normals are seen in the maintenance of a uniform body temperature and, also, in respiration, nutrition, etc. He tells us that, except for these normals the actions and reactions of the cells would be chaotic and their structure

would be completely altered, if not destroyed. He approaches the orthopathic principle when he says that living organisms seek to meet all disturbances imposed upon them in such a way as to maintain the normal in essential points. In every direction we look we find normals “to which return is made with surprising persistence and accuracy.”

modern physiology has not established a single valid norm of structure, function or conduct. This is true because physiologists accept the prevailing low standards of physical and functional excellence and the low conditions of living upon which these rest, as the norms of existence. “Whatever is, is right” is the unexpressed rule of the physiologist, as well as of the biologist and anthropologist. The psychologist, following the same implied rule of interpretation, seeks to determine norms of behavior by statistical studies of what goes on around him in the unnatural world of society, with its neurotic and diseased populations. The norms of structure and function—normal size, normal weight, the normal heart, normal blood, normal blood pressure, normal heart function, normal urinary reaction, normal bowel movement, normal vision, normal childbirth, etc., etc.—are all arbitrarily or statistically established with no reference to their causes. The sexologist, in trying to establish norms of sexual behavior, studies sexual practices as these exist, but makes no effort to relate them to their causes. He merely accepts most, if not all of what is as normal. Without a yard-measure of normal developments each succeeding generation of physiologists stumbles into the same pitfalls.



Healthy Girlhood

The true normal is an expression of physical excellence, of integrity, of health and the study of normals becomes, to use Reinheimer's words, "of almost inconceivable importance" "especially when duly expanded to comprise causes." True health and fitness are complex results of fidelity to the greater aims of nature. It is by no means enough to "look well" and "feel well." Physiological bankruptcy is not always apparent on the surface.

The normals may be viewed as an expression of the requirements of mutual service and accomodation of all the organs and systems in the body, but this should not permit us to lose sight of their wider correlations with external bionomic factors.

Instead of studying the healthiest, most vigorous, best developed specimens of the race, who live rationally, in an endeavor to establish physiological norms; physiologists have contented themselves with securing averages of conventionally

poor specimens who live abnormally. We have become accustomed to accepting the average of a group of overfed, undernourished, habitually over-stimulated, chronically poisoned men and women as normal and looking upon this as the ideal standard. If we approximate this so-called normal we are satisfied. Deductions made from a study of more or less diseased men and women, upon which all such studies are based, do not give the whole truth. Instead of seeking for and determining the bionomic factors upon which the biological norms depend, and bending their energies to right wrongs, when these norms have been departed from, by orthobionomic means, physicians stage a battle in the bodies of their patients between imaginary invading hosts and their drugs and serums.

Instead of studying the healthiest, most vigorous, best developed men and women of various heights, to determine ideal weights for these heights, we average up the undeveloped specimens that exist everywhere and accept these averages as the standards for the people of various degrees of shortness and tallness. One merely has to approximate the average for his or her height and he or she is considered normal, regardless of the nature of the flesh. A young lady of my acquaintance weighs approximately what is considered normal for her height. In street clothes she is very presentable, but when she dons a bathing suit, one discovers that she is greatly undeveloped. She carries a lot of flabby fat that makes up a large part of her weight. Millions of similar examples exist.

The consequences of such misdirected studies are far from desirable. The “normal” individual is a diseased being. The health standard set by the physiologist is very low. The standards for normal blood pressure are far too high. The standard for “normal urinary acidity” is wholly false. Normal human urine is alkaline in reaction. The person of “normal weight” may be so only because he has laid on enough fat on an otherwise underdeveloped body to meet the requirements of the prevailing vogue. A “normal childbirth” may be very painful, somewhat prolonged and result in lacerations. A “normally healthy” woman may suffer hemorrhage with each ovulation. The “normally sexed” individual may be comparatively a satyr or a nymphomaniac. Normal standards, representing the median or average and not the ideal or biological norm, are without true significance.

In the long run excellence and integrity alone can give values. Although physiologists and biologists speak learnedly about natural processes, they have rarely taken the trouble to distinguish between the maximum of healthful performance and a marked degree of impaired performance. Biologists, busying themselves with “struggle” and “survival,” have not thought it worth while to seek out the factors upon which maximum health depends and to determine the causes of impaired health.

Health is wholeness—integrity. The highest degree of health, that towards which we should all strive, depends upon the acme of integrity in all the organs of the body and vigorous performance of their functions; these, in turn, depend upon high bionomic factors.

The biologist, like the physician and physiologist, having no standards of value, nor of health and impaired health, accepts anything and everything as normal so long as it is common enough. These things are, therefore they must be normal, does not misrepresent his philosophy. The evident degeneration of parasites is regarded as normal and the true character of parasitism is carefully concealed under the term “simplification.” We need a standard of physical excellence to serve as a measuring rod and enable us to know when we are at our best. This standard should be a high one, not one based on a lazy compliance with low conditions, or on mere expediency and fictitious adaptation.

In modern biology, with its Darwinian bent, the abnormal is taken for the normal; while, in the Darwinian theory, which forms the basis of this biology, there is scarcely any room for considerations of abnormality, or depravity, whether connected with physiology or with morals. It lacks all standard of values. To biology, the evolution of pathology and the restoration of health are mere matters of haphazard. There are various symptoms of disease which are so nearly universal in civilized life that ignorance calls them natural or normal. The very common fat-bloat and the vulgar habit of spitting are among these. Red cheeks, commonly regarded as a sign of health, are evidences of plethora and irritation and denote a predisposition to febrile “diseases.”

In the schools and in practice, the physician studies so much pathology that life becomes a disease. Pregnancy is a disease and childbirth a surgical operation. The fetus is a tumor. To the psychiatrist every man is suffering to a degree with sadism. The physician becomes obscured by his studies and is cut off from normal life. Actually so-called science does not even know wherein health and disease consist, and constantly mixes the two up indiscriminately. These—health and impaired health—must be accounted for in biological terms and so long as biologists prate about fitness without the slightest conception of the rationale of fitness, of what it consists and how it is achieved and preserved; so long as they invoke, somewhat metaphysically, “preservation,” which is totally inadequate to account for stability, permanence and success, they will never be able to separate the physiological from the pathological, or to tell where physiology ceases and pathology begins. Until this separation is made there can be no clarity of thought and no adequate appreciation of the range and significance of pathological processes.

Prof. Curtis speaks of the plethoric state in which “all is well,” as “that state of the system still called health; but often ‘high health,’” or “that degree of it at which we are said to be in danger of disease.” With a true understanding of the problems of “disease” the plethoric state would be recognized for what it is and not as a state of “high health.” The flushed or “ruddy” cheeks, surplus of fat and apparent vigor, resulting from *overstimulation*, seen in plethoric individuals, are no more signs of health than are pain and skin eruption. Instead of the plethoric individual being in a state of high health, he presents a very low or greatly impaired state of health.

Observe the faces and figures in any crowd you see; compare the cartoons and caricatures you see there—those of so-called average men and women—with the normal type of human beauty as given us in picture and statue and, rarely, in life, and you may become convinced that there is much wrong with this collection of miserable animals we call the human race. Our gods and goddesses are few. We expect beauty only in rare cases and all around beauty almost never. Symmetry is seldom met with and great strength is so rare as to be considered abnormal and dangerous. We have established a standard of weakness as the norm of nature—this, too despite our insistence upon “survival” and “struggle.”

A few years ago two Indians here in Texas ran over a hundred miles in a stretch without fatigue or exhaustion. It is said of the Indian that he could start a deer in the morning and catch him before sun down of the same day. We are creatures built for speed—a free, swift, graceful animal—and the capacity for running mile after mile, hour after hour, as seen among savages, is as natural for man as for the deer. But in our decadence we are afraid of running.

The remarkable performances of athletes at the Olympic games and elsewhere show the marvelous capabilities of the human body when properly trained. They reveal the speed, strength and endurance of which the body is capable and demonstrate the existence of physical powers that are latent in the average person and that only need development. But our Olympic champions are puny weaklings whose records will be left far behind by the superior athletes of the future.

We should be a race of Apollos and Super-Venuses—every man, woman and child should be splendidly developed and symmetrically proportioned. We have fallen far below the standard of beauty and physical excellence that should be ours. I go to the theatre and view wonderously beautiful bodies of men and women—well and proportionately developed, lythe and graceful and full of the energies that throb and thrill with the sheer joy of living. I pick up a magazine, such as *Physical Culture*, and there are pictures of beautiful bodies. I go to the art museum and there in marble and bronze are sculptured likenesses of some beautiful model. In all of these I see

men and women as they should be and can be.

Then I go out on the street and observe the passing show. What do I see? Caricatures of men and women—flat chests, stooped or rounded shoulders, curved spines, bowed legs, blotched complexions, roughened skins, dull eyes, bald heads, false and decayed teeth, fat men, skinny women, puny, energyless specimens of defective development and decay. All of these miserable imitations of men and women are trying to hide their shame behind the arts of the dress maker and cosmetician. What a contrast between these and the beautiful specimens of animal life seen in forest and plain! Among wild animals generally, there exists a high standard of physiological excellence and physical beauty. There are exceptions to this, as will be shown later, but these exceptions teach a much needed lesson.

If a hunter shoots a deer or a robin, he will find him to be a fair sample of the species. He does not exclaim: “What an ugly animal!” or “This must have been an invalid!” Man, too, with the most perfect and most complex organism in the whole organic world, should have the health and beauty that belong to right development. Prof. J. Arthur Thompson says: “Apart from man’s interference there is almost no disease in wild nature; throughout the animal world there is an exuberance of positive health.” With certain notable exceptions, this statement is literally true.

“An exuberance of positive health” should also characterize man; will characterize him as soon as he learns a few much needed lessons about living. The abounding vigor and exuberant health seen in the animal and vegetable kingdoms are not mere accidents; nor are they the result of a fortuitous concourse of favorable circumstances. They have their basis in the instinctive conformity with certain principles of life. When man conforms to these principles he, too, will enjoy the health he now envies.

It is all too true as Charlotte Perkins Gilman says of us, that “almost every one of us is to some degree abnormal; the features asymmetrical, the vision defective, the digestion unreliable, the nervous system erratic—we are but a job lot even in what we call good health, and we are subject to a burden of pain and premature death that would make life hideous if it were not so ridiculously unnecessary.”

Teeth were not made to ache, nor the stomach for digestive distress; the lungs were not made for tuberculosis, nor the kidneys for Bright’s disease. There is not an organ or function in man’s body the normal outworkings of which are painful, or anything but pleasurable. Pain is consequent upon violation of the laws of nature. All the misery we see around us today is the result of violated law.

Physicians, following in the footsteps of biologists, frequently declare that “as a profession we stand on the other side of good and evil.” What wonder, then, that they

so often betray a complacent acquiescence to our evil habits of life. The relation of habits to health are ignored, while we seek to “survive” in a fictitious “struggle for existence” with the microbes. One must be naive indeed, or thoughtless, to believe that we may commit, with impunity, the worst breaches of natural laws; that excesses, over-excitement, neglect, poison habits, etc., may be indulged without resulting in disadvantages, provided one takes certain so-called specific drugs or certain so-called “strengthening” products which the pharmacists sell in the forms of pills, powders and potions. Supremacy rests upon true fitness, the fitness that spells freedom from degeneracy, a kind of fitness with which Darwinism and its fictitious “selection” jargon and medicine and its countless forms of vicarious atonement, are wholly unacquainted. We must view the body, in the words of Mr. Reinheimer, “as an emporium of delicately poised cells and tissues, standing in a relation of the most wonderful reciprocity imaginable to one another,” in which “the owner and governor of such an empire must be a model administrator, must think ‘imperially,’ must ‘play the game,’ must be a model of socio-physiological rectitude, in order that he may properly manage such an army of inferiors and associates.” Here is the Way of Life—the Key to Supremacy. Real health comes not from medicinal means nor yet from vaccinal preservation, but is indissolubly connected with obligations and duties of a higher and more general order and to conduct more noble than the faithful taking of pharmaceutical prescriptions. Understand and obey the laws of life, of nature, and health, strength, youth, beauty and long life follow as a necessary consequence.

XI. The Hygiene of Health

“There must be a way to live exactly right, which, if a man does, he will grow into health,” said a young school-teacher to himself some years ago. He was beginning to despair of his life because every physician to whom he went diagnosed his case differently and proceeded to make him much worse than ever. Then began a long series of experiments upon his own body, and years of study of the subjects that relate to health and disease. That man, young Robert Walter, later became one of the leaders in the *Hygienic* movement. Like many others who have turned to *Hygiene*, he was forced to study the matter for himself because physicians are interested in disease and not in living.

Right living does not consist in doing a lot of unnecessary things which leave one little time to do anything else. It does not require doing things that take up any extra time at all. One must live in any case and all Orthobionomics asks is that one live correctly. You have to eat and breathe, bathe and drink, rest and sleep, exercise and clothe. These things you must do for yourself, no one else can do them for you, and it requires no more time to do them rightly than to do them wrongly. Indeed *Orthobionomic Living*, by conserving health, will save time. It consists merely in the application of knowledge and intelligence to the everyday affairs of living.

The builders of the *Hygienic System* sought to induce mankind to return to a normal mode of living and to desist from living in such a manner that they build disease daily. They saw in wrong life the efficient cause of disease, in a return to the normal way or life the true remedy. Instead of seeking to restore good health after we have lost it, it is the object of *Natural Hygiene* to preserve it while we have it. An aristocracy of health with superlative health as its basis is the *Hygienic* goal. Unfortunately, the leaders of contemporary society have not emancipated themselves, in matters of living and healing, from the trammels of shamanistic thinking.

“Health by healthful living” must be our watchword. We cannot go on forever content with producing troubles and then being patched up. This is beginning to be recognized by ever increasing numbers of people and the demand for knowledge of how to live grows day by day. Now that the demand for knowledge exists, somebody will have to supply it. It need hardly be said that the traditional schools cannot supply the required knowledge for they lack the knowledge themselves. Nowhere else than from the *Natural Hygienist* can the knowledge-hungry derive the truth about health, disease and healing.

As it is true that people stay well so long as they practice normal habits and live within their physiological limitations, it becomes necessary to learn what are normal

ways of life and to learn to recognize our limitations. Man must learn to control himself in accord with the laws of organic structure, for only within that order is there true liberty and out of it there is only disease and ruin. Either man controls himself in harmony with the laws of life or he breaks himself in disregard of them.

Unfortunately there is a growing tendency to expect a blueprint schedule to live by daily. Thousands ask for a daily program which they can follow. They want to be told when to arise in the morning, when to retire at night, what to do during the waking hours and just when to do it. I do not believe in routine living. Such a program takes all of the spontaneity out of life. To live by chart and clock would be slavery. A well-ordered life need not (must not) degenerate into a monotonous routine in which everything is done by count. Instead of a blue-print of daily activities, it is better to learn the broad general principles of life and live a diverse life conformable to these. Leave room in your life for change, variation, surprise, adventure, spontaneity, and diversion. There is room for much wholesome variation of one's program within the broad limits of natural law.

Physiology alone, can teach us how man must live in order to secure the best health and attain to the greatest age of which the human constitution is capable. The fact that there are individuals now living who are a hundred years old, proves that the human constitution is capable of sustaining life a hundred years at least, and perhaps longer, if the mode of living is, in all respects, correct. Here we shall probably be met with the very ancient and utterly absurd doctrine, that there are different constitutions and therefore, that what may be true of one, cannot truly be affirmed of all: what is one man's elixir is another man's bane.

We freely admit that, in the present state of mankind, some individuals have more vital energy and constitutional power to resist the cause of deterioration and death than others have, and therefore, what will break down the constitution and destroy the life of some individuals, may be borne by others a much longer time without any striking manifestations of immediate injury. Some can withstand more abuse than others. It is also true that, in the present state of man, some individuals have strongly marked idiosyncrasies or peculiarities; but these are more rare and of a much less important character than is generally supposed, and in no instance do they constitute the slightest exception to the general laws of life, nor in any degree interfere with, or militate against the correct principles of general regimen. Indeed, such peculiarities, though rarely constitutional, may in almost every case be overcome entirely by a correct regimen. "I have frequently," says Graham, "seen the most strongly marked cases completely subdued by such means. It is an incontrovertible truth, therefore, that so far as the general laws of life and the application of the general principles of

regimen are concerned, the human constitution is *one*; and there are no constitutional differences in the human race which will not readily yield to a correct regimen, and thus yielding improve the condition of the individual affected; and consequently, there are no constitutional differences in the human race which stand in the way of adapting one general regimen to the whole family of man; but on the contrary, it is most strictly true that, so far as the general laws of life and the application of general principles of regimen are considered, what may be truly affirmed of one man may be truly affirmed of all, and what is best for one is best for all; and therefore, all general reasonings concerning the human constitution, are equally applicable to each member of the human family, in all ages of the world, and in all conditions of the race, and in all the various circumstances of the individual.”

All of which simply means that what is truly a healthful life for Mr. Smith is equally healthful for Mr. Jones. But it does not follow that because Smith, with a much more powerful constitution than Jones, resists the influences of a “disease” building regimen longer than Jones, that what is Smith’s meat is Jones’ poison. It only shows that due to the differences in their constitutional strength, not to any differences in their constitutional nature, more poisons are required to kill Smith than to kill Jones. But the essential point which Mr. Graham, and so far as we are aware, all subsequent writers on this subject, overlooked, is that, we are not trying to fit an unhealthful regimen to Jones and get him to live as long as Smith under the same unhealthful regimen; but we are attempting to fit a regimen that is essentially healthful to all—we would remove, as far as possible, the causes of disease that the constitutional powers of both men are forced to resist. We seek to accomplish this in a strictly natural way for as Graham pointed out, artificial means are all harmful.

It would be impossible for two men with equally excellent constitutions, to reach an equally advanced age, with habits of life exactly opposite, without a very marked and apparent difference in condition and appearance of both body and mind. *It is not possible for two men of equally excellent constitutions to start out in life and follow such equally opposite courses and arrive at the same goal.* That a life just lived as it happened, filled with numerous and various excesses, would enable a man to reach the hundred mark in as good mental and physical condition as another would be in, at the same age, who had led a temperate and well ordered life, is absurd on the face of it. To believe such is to believe that life is subject to no law, that man is at the mercy of fortuitous circumstances or a capricious Providence that hygiene and sanitation are valueless, inebriety is as good as temperance, gluttony as salubrious as moderation, sensuality as healthful as virtue, impurity and nastiness as beneficial as purity and cleanliness, chaos as approved as order. Are we to believe that there are no

rules of health—no laws governing life?; or, are we to believe that, if such laws do exist, they are not binding, and that we may voluntarily set them aside when we will? Are the laws governing health any less real than those governing mathematics or chemistry? Do acts have no consequences in the realm of life?

Anyone with common intelligence, can readily discern that, if health and rigid hygiene do not prevent “disease,” then, man is left a helpless victim of chance, a ready prey to the “devouring monsters,” and must remain so until he discovers some effective barrier against the inroads of “germs” and worse. If a body pulsating with vitality and full of pure blood, is no guarantee against “disease,” so long as, by hygienic living, it is maintained in this state, then health and hygiene are failures and man is indeed the helpless victim of circumstances beyond his control. If he possesses good health, it is simply due to his good fortune and not to his good behavior. Those who hold to such a doctrine may laugh at the laws of life, and violate them continually, and, then if they possess a sound, vigorous constitution, they may abuse themselves a long time before the effects of these abuses appear. But only the fool can believe that even the most rugged constitution can be abused indefinitely without hurt.

Given a normal organism at birth and a proper mode of living afterward, together with the absence of all injurious influences, every baby born into this world will grow into a strong, healthy man or woman. The same simple conditions that are the sources of the development of plant, animal and man from germ to maturity are the constant sources of the maintenance of these organisms after maturity is reached. The same influences that impair or prevent development in the growing child or youth also impair the powers of life in adults.

Whether you have a good organism at birth will depend partly upon heredity and partly upon the nutrition you received from your mother. What that organism will become after birth, that is, whether it will reach up to its highest potentiality, or fall far short of its inherent possibilities, will depend upon how you live. Of course there will be social factors that are not subject to individual control that may mar your life to a certain extent, but for the most part you and your parents and teachers will determine your life.

You cannot change your heredity. You cannot change your past. You cannot make society over. But you can work for the betterment of these things for the future. Civilization has many influences in it that are inimical to health. But these are not inherent in it and may be eradicated. We can build for a better future and assure our children and grandchildren better conditions to grow up under. The standard of living can be raised; the conditions of life can be improved, not merely for the fortunate

few, but for all.

So prone is man to look upon the conditions under which he is born and reared as natural and to look upon those things which the majority of mankind do as an average as the best for us to do as a whole, few are inclined to question the wisdom of the conventional standards of health and living, with a view to ascertaining if these best serve the physiological and psychological welfare of the individual and the race, but take it for granted that they do so. There is a happy delusion, a very convenient substitute for thought, that our present customs and standards represent the boiled down results of thousands of years of race experience and that they should not be tampered with. If it can be shown, historically, that a particular custom is old, this suffices to establish its value in the minds of many. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

It is one thing to possess the knowledge of how to attain ideal health; it is quite another to have the self-control necessary to ideal living. Humanity has much to learn in the way of self-discipline. Before this can be done, we must abandon our belief in the inevitability of disease, our faith in the conventional "cures," and our belief that disease is an attack from without. It is essential that we learn to realize that all disease is autogenerated. Unless we can learn this last fact, we can see no need for self-control. Man is the author of his own undoing; the architect of his own condemnation. The decay caused by his own unwholesome habits of living eats into his very vitals and produces his miseries and premature death.

The following words should be kept in mind: "It is not what people eat, but what they digest, that makes them strong. It is not what they gain, but what they save, that makes them rich. It is not what they read, but what they remember, that makes them learned. It is not what they profess, but what they practice, that makes them righteous. These are very plain and important truths, too little heeded by gluttons, spendthrifts, bookworms and hypocrites." — *Life Illustrated*.

When we come to consider the means best suited to maintain life and health, youth, strength and beauty, it is obvious that *the highest possible standard must be accepted*. A lazy compliance with low conditions cannot produce and maintain the health and strength or the youth and beauty that we seek. The low standards of health that everywhere prevail today rest squarely upon the low standards of living that are everywhere accepted as proper. No higher standards of health can be achieved and maintained until we demand and accept higher standards of living. In this connection, the phrase "higher standards of living" has no reference to finer mansions, more and finer automobiles, fancier clothes, better rugs on the floor, etc., but to closer conformity with the laws of life. The following brief outline of correct living may

serve as a guide.

1.—*Cultivate poise and cheer*: Do not attempt to see the world through the rose-colored glasses of a sentimental Pollyanna but learn to take joy and sorrow, good fortune and misfortune with the same calmness and equitableness. Avoid worry, fear, anxiety, excitement, jealousy, anger, self-pity, etc. Control your temper, passions and emotions. Well did Dr. Weger say that we are either poised or poisoned. Poise is a great conservator of energy. Lack of poise wastes the energies of life and results in enervation.

2 —*Exercise Daily*. Daily physical exercise, preferably in the fresh air and sunshine and, as often as possible, in the form of play, is essential to both mental and physical health. Avoid the strenuous life, however. Do not make the Rooseveltian mistake of imagining that a strenuous physical life can offset gluttony. The subject of exercise is fully covered in Volume IV of this series. Study carefully the information contained in that volume and make proper use of it.

3. —*Secure plenty of rest and sleep each day*: Learn to retire early. Learn to relax and let go. Earn your sleep by honest work and avoid stimulants and sleep will come easily and naturally. Do not turn the night into day. Time is never wasted that is spent in recuperation.

4.—*Keep Clean*: This refers to both body and mind. Keep clean clothes, clean beds, clean houses. Keep the mind clean. Avoid lustful thoughts and desires. Do not become covetous, deceitful or corrupt. Nature penalizes you for all these things with hardening of the arteries and shortened life. It is not necessary to make a fetish of cleanliness, or to become finicky about everything you touch in order to be healthfully clean.

5.—*Breathe fresh, pure air*: Keep your windows open. Have your living room, bedroom, office or workshop well ventilated. Get out of doors as much as possible. If you live in the city take advantage of every opportunity to get into the country.

6—*Secure as much sunshine as possible*: This means that your nude body, or as much of it as circumstances will permit, should be exposed to the direct rays of the sun. To merely sit by the window, or take a walk in the sunshine heavily clad, or in dark clothing, will be of little benefit in so far as the sunshine is concerned. Get sunbaths in the morning or evening, when it is not excessively hot. The subject of sunbathing is fully covered in Volume III of this series and you are advised to study carefully the information there given and to make regular and intelligent use of it.

7.—*Eat moderately of wholesome foods*: All true foods that are fresh, pure, unadulterated and that have not been processed, refined, and cooked until their food value is largely destroyed, are wholesome foods. All foods that, in the process of

refining, manufacturing, pickling, canning, preserving, and cooking, etc., have been adulterated and poisoned by bleaching, coloring, flavoring, seasoning, and preservatives, are more or less unwholesome. All foods that have been raised in defective soil, in hot-houses or on manure-fed lands or on lands fed with packing-house fertilizers, or that were raised out of the sunlight, are more or less unwholesome. All foods that have begun to undergo decomposition are unwholesome.

Man may eat unwholesome foods all his life, thanks to his wonderful powers of “self-immunization” and adaptation, and enjoy what ordinarily passes for health. “Excess in moderately, unwholesome viands,” says Oswald, “has to be carried to a monstrous degree before the after-dinner torpor turns into a malignant disease; the stomach seems to acquire a knack of assimilating a modicum of the ingesta and voiding the rest like so much unnutritious stuff.”

The rule, however, that applies to unnatural habits in general also applies, and very forcibly, to chronic dietetic abuses—namely: *the further we have strayed from nature the longer, wearier and more painful will be the road to reform.*

Wholesome food taken in too large quantity becomes a dissipation. The ancient Greeks regarded the man who ate more than two meals a day as a barbarian. The number of meals eaten a day, however, is not the real measure of sanity in eating. It is possible to overeat on but one meal a day. Hunger is the organic assimilative passion in which the wants of the body are reflected in the form of a distinct sensation. Hunger should be the true guide as to when to eat and how much.

8.—*Be moderate in wearing clothes:* It may be stated that, as a general rule, the less clothes one wears the healthier one will be. The materials should be light, porous and white or of light colors. Dark or black clothing should be avoided like snakes. No tight bands, belts, corsets, garters, etc., should be allowed to interfere with the circulation nor cramp the organs of the body. Shoe heels should be absent or, at most, very low. Shoes should fit the feet and the feet not be made to fit the shoes. Some day sandals and a string of beads will be our chief articles of clothing.

9.—*Have an interest in life:* A purposeless life is marked for early dissolution. A purposeless life is not worthy of preservation. That man or woman who has no purpose in life is driven about from place to place; from discontent to despair. Idle people are the unhappiest people in the world. Only those who have something interesting or something constructive to do are happy and content. Dr. Oswald tells us that “Horace Greely was killed by the election returns.” “Bed time,” “my children,” whispers mother nature, “when the sun of hope has set.”

10.—*Avoid all poison habits:* Coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, tobacco, alcohol,

opium, heroin, soda fountain slops and other drugs all weaken, poison and destroy the body. Whatever is hurtful to the body of man is also hurtful to his mind. Poison habits, as will be fully shown in another chapter in this volume, are always and under all circumstances, wasteful of life. There is not the shadow of a shade of reason for the existence of a single one of the poison habits so nearly universally practiced by man. Abstinence from these things, when based on correct knowledge, becomes a physiological principle instead of a restraint or a privation.

11.—*Avoid sexual excess*: All sexual relations,—“petting,” mental self-abuse, self-abuse and all indulgences—drain the nervous system of much of its powers. Conserve these powers. Sex will be fully covered in Volume V of this series and the reader is referred to that volume for information. The advice here given is to practice moderation in sex. This advice is for the mature individual. The young, growing individual should let sex alone. For the adult, celibacy in either sex is one of incompleteness and imperfection. For the mature adult, the fanaticism of abstinence is the recoil from the fanaticism of the epicurean, the over-indulgent.

12.—*Avoid All Excess*: Build your life on the conservation of energy, not upon its dissipation. Don't waste your forces in useless and needless expenditures. Be moderate and temperate in all things. If you waste your forces you impair your functions and build toxemia and impair nutrition.

We are living in an age of thrills and excitement. These things have been commercialized and organized on a large scale. They are habit-forming and progressive in their tendency. They build a very unstable nervous system and wreck health. Life without some thrill and excitement would be monotonous, but the pursuit of these things as an end in itself is an unmitigated evil. One invariably goes to excess and, as satiety is derived from one form, craves and seeks a more thrilling and more exciting form.

Moderation is the only rule of a healthful life. This means moderation in all things wholesome. Abstinence should be reserved for those unwholesome or hurtful things which man has foolishly and ignorantly introduced into his way of life, things that have no normal relation to life. Moderation in eating, sunbathing, exercise, sexual indulgence, water drinking, is essential to a healthful life. Intemperance in any element of living is hurtful in precisely the degree to which the excess is carried. But moderation or temperance which is merely a matter of abstention commonly fails. To succeed in our efforts at self-control, moderation must be adopted on principle.

Hygiene must be made attractive. It cannot forever remain a series of rules and restrictions, largely of a negative character, which repel most people who come in contact with them. A negative Hygiene contains too many “thou shalt nots” and not a

sufficient number of attractive pleasures. A positive *Hygiene* will lead every person to eat with zest, to exercise with joy and vigor, to live joyously without fear and dread. It will invite man to enjoy life, not by dissipation and unwholesome activities and indulgences, but by full appreciation of the wholesome, normal things of life. Only thus can we translate into a song of gladness that moan of pain and wail of despair that goes up from the earth today. Only thus can misery give place to happiness and joy supplant weeping.

There exists an attractive and normal source of substances, composed of agreeable aliments, of which the people and physicians, as a rule, seem to have not the least knowledge. These and wholesome activities provide us with those bird-like joys that are found in nature, or more appropriately, in a return to the simple ways of life. We must emphasize the big, sweet, luscious strawberries rather than the “double rich, double mellow” beer; the mild smooth, creamy flavor of the avocado rather than the alleged mildness and coolness of cigarettes; the sugarland sweetness of dates or bananas rather than the rich, caramel flavor of candy. This is to say, we must take a leaf from the book of commercialism and learn to emphasize the joys that belong to normal living. In our contemporary society only the most unwholesome things, like cigarettes, beer, etc., are advertised as “rich,” “smooth,” “creamy,” “pleasing,” and as having a delightful “aroma.” Nobody emphasizes the genuine delights that are to be derived from wholesome aliments.

There is little object to existence unless it is beautiful, vigorous and joyful, but our present life and especially our present diet, builds misery, ill-health, ugliness and degeneracy. We must tap the richest sources of vitality which nature possesses and put them to valuable account. We must supply ourselves and our children with superior nutritive substances and these can come only from the bountiful hand of mother nature. We must learn to make the best use of nature’s wholesome and pleasant products and her most salubrious influences to the end that we may enjoy the highest degree of physical and mental excellence. This will require temperance in the use of all good things and abstinence from all hurtful things. This will require the exercise of intelligence and self-control.

It is doubtless true, as a recent writer says that, basic man is already in possession of all the incarnate intelligence, often called instinct, essential to healthful existence, so that he does not require a halting of his functions and call for time out from the business of living, while he studies biology and physiology in the intellectual canning factories, while, on the other hand, civilized man, with his encyclopedic learning, has lost the art of healthful living and depends upon the experts and specialists who misguide him as they misguide themselves. After we have recognized the truth

contained in this statement we are faced with the fact that civilized man has wandered so far from the normal paths of life and has so blunted and impaired his instincts and has lost the ability to interpret the language of his senses to such a degree that he cannot turn himself loose and abandon his intelligence in his efforts to live.

It is practically impossible for the individual who is addicted to perverse habits and inordinate indulgences to see or to comprehend his own condition. He is likely to pity the person who lives virtuously as one who denies himself the pleasures of life. But we are so constituted that the greatest and highest joys of life come from virtuous conduct. If the gormand pities the moderate eater, if the drunkard pities the temperate man, if the libertine thinks the chaste man is missing the pleasures of life, if the meat eater sympathizes with the vegetarian, these poor benighted and deluded addicts are in the same boat with the morphine addict who feels sorry for the man who takes no morphine. But these addicts cannot see themselves as they are. Life, to them, is something unreal and abnormal. These people are so physically and mentally abnormal that life appears to them through a false and distorted medium.

13.—*Do not become one-sided in your manner of living.* It is possible to learn to think and act in the language of health without doing so in a fanatical, superstitious manner. Adopt a sane, wholesome attitude towards life and an all-round program of living. The state of health is only to be maintained by a due observance of all of the laws of life in their combination. You cannot remain or become well and strong through exercise alone, or through diet alone, or through rest and sleep alone. Deep breathing alone will not give you superb health, nor will a lot of time spent out of doors to the exclusion of other normal needs of life assure you the continued possession of good health. All of these things are good, but life is more than exercise, or food and drink; more than thought or rest and sleep. It is all of these and more. Life must be lived as a whole.

Do not get the idea that you are an exception to the laws of life; there are no exceptions. The laws that govern life, health development, disease and death in your body are the same laws that govern these same processes in the bodies of your neighbors. Physiological laws and processes are the same in Jones as in Smith. Both Jones and his neighbors are injured by the same harmful indulgences, practices, habits, agents and influences. Both are helped by the same Factors. Paste this in your hat: *You are no exception.*

We must learn to view life as a struggle between self-control and self-indulgence and must come to realize that self-control alone leads to strength and happiness. Self-indulgence leads to misery and destruction. The late Elbert Hubbard well said: "The rewards of life are for service, its penalties for self-indulgence." There is absolutely

no need for any action or habit that impairs life and produces weakness and disease. But people are so enslaved by their habits, so bent on the pleasures of the moment, so lacking in self-control that they cannot free themselves. Self-control is the world's greatest need. Self-discipline is the only saving force. Our pleasure-mad and thrill-stimulated age is almost wholly lacking in self-control.

Many will say: "I would rather live as I do now and only live ten years than to live as you have outlined and live a hundred." They do not realize that this is the despairing cry of a slave. These people are hopelessly enslaved by their bad habits and thoroughly perverted in both mind and body. Mind and body alike are dominated by their habits. They are beyond redemption. They will declare they derive more satisfaction from their pipe or cigar than from anything else in life. Or they cry out, "Please don't take my harem away." It is but a waste of time to reason with such. One is always defeated in an argument with their appetites and morbid desires and perverted instincts. Their cry is "We live but once. Let us enjoy life while we are here." We believe in enjoying life, real life, life in the highest and fullest sense; not on the low groveling plane they mean. What they should say is: "We live but once, let us make it short and snappy."

If these people would only die at the end of their ten fast and merry years, little objection could be offered to their foolish "philosophy" and worse practices. But many of them do not do this. Instead, they hang on year after year, going from doctor to doctor and from institution to institution in search of a *cure* for the effects of the very abuses of their bodies from which they think they derive so much pleasure and satisfaction. They desire to be *saved, in their sins ... not from them*. The "satisfaction" they derive from their pipe or their gluttony or their alcohol or from their harem is a poor satisfaction. It is a poor substitute for the higher joys of real health based on wholesome living. If you would live longer; live simply, live wholesomely, live rightly.

It is the purpose of these volumes to teach you how to carry out the above outlined plan of living. Upon a basis of right living alone, can superior health rest. Supremacy rests upon true fitness, the fitness that spells freedom from degeneracy, a kind of fitness with which Darwinism and its fictitious "selection" jargon and medicine and its countless forms of vicarious atonement are wholly unacquainted.

Our habits make themselves parts of our lives and easily influence all of our thinking and acting. They exert their influence upon philosophy, morals, politics, medicine, religion, science, in fact, upon everything in society. Note, for instance, how our carnivorous biologists have built up for us a black leopard-tiger philosophy; how they expend much effort in defending conventional modes of living. Plato said:

“A transgression easily steals in imperceptibly and by way of diversion and apparently without producing mischief we are becoming familiar by degrees with the evil. It insensibly runs into the manners and pursuits, and from thence in intercourse or dealings one with another, it becomes larger; and from this intercourse it enters into laws and policies with much impudence, till at last it overturns all things, both private and public.”

A true philosophy of life can be built up only by those who live in accord with the laws of life. A healthful philosophy can come only from health and healthful living. Just as we cannot look to the gutter for true morality, so we cannot look to those whose lives are a lazy compliance with low conditions to teach us the ways of life.

XII. Rest and Relaxation

We know that within certain limits, the more the living body works the more resistant and better fitted for work it becomes. Unlike the machine it does not steadily wear out from work; for it is a “machine” the parts of which are constantly renewing and repairing themselves. Work, activity, does wear the body; the processes of renewal and repair go on during rest and sleep. Every vital action is necessarily attended with an expenditure of vital power and waste of organized substance. The functions of sensibility, voluntary motion, expression and of the conscious mind cannot be indulged indefinitely. After a period of activity a condition arises, due to this expenditure and waste and the consequent need for recuperation and repair, known as fatigue. After a time—the length of which is determined somewhat by habit and the general condition of the organism—the contractile powers of the muscles begin to diminish, and if action is continued long enough, they cease to contract at all. What is true of the muscles is equally true of the brain and special senses. A temporary cessation of activity is enforced. If only voluntary action ceases, this is rest; if mind and special senses also suspend functions, the result is sleep.

Rest is a temporary reduction or suspension of activity for purposes of recuperation and repair. Every movement expends substance and this necessitates a certain or uncertain amount of time to recover before organ or organism is again ready for action. Activity consumes the substances of the body, is vitolytic; increased activity increases the consumption of body substances. During rest, the cells, the tissues and the organs are repaired, replenished and renewed. Rest is vitogenic. Resting organs are better able to repair their damaged structures than *stimulated* organs. Rest and sleep are the great representative restorative processes.

It is necessary that we consider three general results of mental, emotional and physical activity, in order that we may fully grasp the significance of repose. All activity results in the formation in the body of certain products of metabolism—carbon dioxide, lactic acid, etc.—“fatigue poisons”—which, if the action is violent or prolonged accumulate in excess of the body’s ability to carry them away from the cells and eliminate them. There results a progressive intoxication (a self-poisoning), which may be carried to the point of selfdestruction.

Activity expends the substances of the active organs and, if habitually over-indulged may even draw upon the reserves of the other organs of the body. This process, long continued, brings on a condition of organic exhaustion. Great muscular work is not essential to the production of this condition—work, though light, whether mental or physical—needs only to be carried on for long hours. Organic exhaustion

results from using up the substances of the body beyond its power to renew itself during the hours of rest and repose habitually allotted to this purpose.

All physical, physiological, mental and emotional activity draws upon the nerve centers and when the daily losses by these centers is greater than they are able to replenish during rest and sleep, there develops a condition which we call nervous exhaustion.

In all cases of chronic fatigue all three of the above forms of fatigue are present in varying degrees. Intoxication fatigue may be recovered from in only a few minutes or a few hours, but organic exhaustion and nervous fatigue may be recovered from only after considerable time.

The blood and lymph passing through the tissues collect and carry away the waste products of the cells. These also supply the cells and tissues with materials with which to renew and repair themselves. The eliminating process cannot be properly accomplished, however, until the work is over; nor can the process of repair and renewal go on during activity. Insufficient rest leads to the accumulation of waste products in the system and to a failure of repair and renewal. Rest is an essential condition of elimination; for, during rest the formation of waste products is lessened. Rest is, likewise, an essential condition of the repair and renewal of tissues; for during rest assimilation is not hindered so much by disassimilation. *Work uses up substance, exhausts energy and fills the tissues with toxins. Rest permits replenishment of substance, recuperation of energy and removal of toxins.*

During life the substance of organs is being used or replenished, as these organs work or rest. These changing conditions—action and repose—are necessary to fullness of life, the perfection of vital action' being accomplished by such alternations of exertion and repair. The one is complementary of the other, for use or activity expends substance which must be replaced during rest or repose. Repose is as much a vital act as activity; for, as both are equally necessary to life and, as no functional act is the result of any other than the powers of life, relaxation and repose is no more an accidental or occasional state than is activity or work. The uniformity of their recurrence, differing in time and degree in the various organs, as required to perfect the performance of function in each, is distinctly manifest in all of them. Though in certain organs the regularity of action and repose is rather indistinct its existence is inferred from the universality of the law in other organs. The ovaries have their remarkable periods of activity and repose; the brain requires rest at intervals; the nerves require repose; the eyes cannot be used indefinitely.

No organism is capable of manifesting energy or of bearing the action of force through it, without wasting under the activity and therefore requiring repair—and rest

for purposes of repair—to fit it for further activity. Regularity in periods of alternate activity and repose is characteristic of all vital action. Although this fact manifests itself in different ways and in very different periods of time in the several organs composing the living organism, no organ is exempt from the necessity of resting. Both the voluntary and involuntary muscles manifest the same periodicity of action, although it is more marked in the voluntary muscles. By alternate periods of contraction and relaxation the heart distributes the blood, resting between the contractions.

Muscles which have been dissociated from the nerves that connect them with the motor-centers of the spinal cord, are able to pass through the alternate stages of exhaustion by work, and of return to power of contraction under rest, just as if they were still in association with the nerves. If such a muscle is excited electrically, without stopping, after a time, it will become fatigued and will cease to act when the current is applied. If, then, it is permitted to rest for a certain time, its power of contraction will be gradually restored. To a lesser degree these same phenomena may be seen when both the nervous impulse and the blood supply are cut off.

Inactivity (rest, relaxation and sleep) is the process of recuperation. A return to the passive state is the only legitimate process of recuperation. If invalids are to be restored to good health, if strength and vigor are to take the place of debility and weakness, we must save life, by saving power. The conditions of recovery are conditions of conservation and recuperation. This principle applies to every organ and function of the body. Rest for each organ is as imperative as rest for the whole body. The heart requires rest as much as do the muscles of the arms. The stomach must have rest the same as the eyes. The glands of the body have the same need for rest as does the brain. Rest, by reducing activity, is the first requisite of recovery.

Rest, physical, physiological and mental, is a necessity. This necessity may be ignored for a time and the mind and body worked when they demand rest, but the result is always the same—namely a lowering of the mental and physical standards, always a loss, never a gain. Irritants (“stimulants”) force the body to call out and consume its reserves; so that, while they seem to give us strength and added working capacity, they are actually compelling the waste of strength and ability. They increase activity and thus increase expenditure.

It should be noted that the organism is capable of prolonging the periods of rest or activity much beyond their usual lengths, when occasion makes this necessary. The ability to apply an organ to more than its usual exertion, or to relieve it from undue effort or to prolong its period of rest as necessity demands, has certain limitations. No set of muscles can be tensed or active indefinitely; the stomach cannot

labor continually, the brain must have rest. The duration of effort in any organ may have a considerable range, but rest must come or the organ will suffer from not being renewed. It cannot be always expending itself and never stop for recuperation.

Activity expends power. There can be no doubt of this. Activity exhausts and tears down. Whether it be of body or brain or stomach, or liver, heart or lungs or any other organs of the body, work exhausts that organ. Activity is the process of expending power.

Katabolism, the destructive side of metabolism, is marked mainly by increased signs of life—increased muscular, mental, emotional and sensory activity, increased heart action, quickened circulation, accelerated breathing, a rise in temperature, and increased waste. *Anabolism*, the constructive side of metabolism, or repair, requires a slowing down of the processes of life. Repair of the body takes place chiefly and most rapidly during sleep—when there is a general diminution of the signs (activities) of life—decreased heart action, diminished circulation, decreased respiration, lowered temperature, muscular inactivity, sensory and mental suspension. This is in accord with *Life's Great Law*—“the success of whose work is directly proportioned to the amount of the force, and inversely to the degree of its activity.”

Repose—rest and sleep—permits the renewal of the cells, repair of tissue, replenishment of nerve centers and elimination of accumulated toxic waste. We can never get out of an organ what is not in it. What is in it, is put there during repose; it is taken out during activity.

Taking all of these facts into consideration, I have formulated what I call *The Law of Repose: Whenever action in the animal body has expended the substance and available energy of the body, rest is demanded and received in order to replenish its substances and for recuperation of power.*

Throughout all nature repose alternates with activity. Back of every action is a great repose. Nature has her resting times. Civilization attempts to do away with these and supplant them with “stimulation.” When disease results, instead of returning to the quiet, perfect way of nature, man resorts to every conceivable artificial means as a rapid transit back to health and strength, and, as a logical consequence, only succeeds in getting farther away from health. Man quiets his protesting nerves that he may continue to abuse them. He palliates a diseased stomach that he may continue misusing it. He seeks strength in “stimulants” that he may use this in greater dissipation. He does not obey the laws of life from which alone he can obtain the strength he craves. All of his efforts to simulate health, injure his health. Every artificial means of increasing functional activities depletes his powers.

Whether it is a wound or a broken bone that is to be healed, or a body tired from a

day of toil that is to be repaired and restored to normal vigor, rest is the prime requisite. Rest is the condition of repair and recuperation. Whether the body is but slightly enervated from a day of toil or profoundly enervated from weeks, months or years of living in such a manner that vitality is greatly depleted, rest is the first and most necessary condition of recuperation of energy and repair of tissue. Whether one is exhausted by prolonged excitement or prostrated by shock, rest is the prime essential of recovery. Stimulants invariably retard recovery and prolong the condition of vital impairment.

The law of dual effect knows no exceptions. It applies to all departments of life. Labor or exercise arouse vital activity and give the appearance of increased vigor. This is the first effect. The secondary effect is fatigue and exhaustion. Very often the invalid is told that he must keep up, because, if he goes to bed, he will lose strength. This is the first effect. The secondary effect is a gain in strength. Travel or excitement make the invalid feel stronger and better as a first effect. But the secondary effect is languor, weakness, exhaustion. Rest and sleep, on the contrary, produce as their first effects, weakness and languor; but no one doubts their recuperative value. Rest and sleep are the only means whereby recuperation and invigoration can be secured. But these are secondary effects. *The invalid must become weak that he may grow strong.*

The intervals and periods of healthy repose are proportioned to the kind and amount of work performed by the particular organs. If you would do efficient work you must have abundant power with which to do it. If the power is lacking it must be recuperated through rest. If you would be active you must first be willing to sleep. If you would be strong you must first be willing to be weak. Rest should predominate with overworked people and with patients who have little resistance.

Just as there are all degrees of work, from the lightest activity to the most violent exertion, so there are various degrees of rest. To the trained runner, to walk for a while is to rest. To the sick man to even sit up may be exhausting work. The runner who “rests” himself by walking, cannot keep up alternately walking and running indefinitely. Sooner or later he must cease his activities and go to bed to rest. All structures become feeble when they are worked more than they are nourished. Each and every organ has a limit to its working capacity and when these limits are habitually overstepped and insufficient rest secured for tissue replenishment, the body grows weak and debilitated.

Work is not only desirable, it is necessary. Power is useless unless we may expend it or employ it. But it is extremely important that we distinguish between processes of expenditure and processes of recuperation. If we know these processes and the conditions of these we may secure either at will. In this connection it makes

all the difference in the world whether vitality is manufactured by food, oxygen, exercise and “tonics,” or expended by these and recuperated through rest. Do “tonics” and “stimulants” really strengthen us or do they take away the strength they appear to give? Is the athlete strengthened while he exercises or while he rests and sleeps? Does he recuperate while active or when passive? If vitality is the product of the action of the vital organs and not the power back of their action, then, indeed, should the athlete live forever and never become exhausted. Indeed, the more active he becomes the more vitality should he acquire.

By expending and exhausting our powers, but rendering us conscious of them in the process of expenditure, “stimulants,” “tonics” and other measures delude us by making us believe they communicate to us the powers they are taking from us. The more of a drug one uses the more one feels the need of it. It produces the very ailment it is intended to *cure*. Nervines produce nervousness, cathartics produce chronic constipation. The more epsom salts one employs the larger the dose he must use. The same is true of all drugs for all purposes.

All processes and measures that promote activity in the present invariably necessitate reduced action in the future. Rest must follow work. Recuperation must be commensurate with expenditure, else the vital forces are permanently lowered. The pendulum of human energy cannot swing always in one direction. The law of dual effect is absolute. Those measures which, while occasioning increased action in the present, do so by doing violence to the body or to the vital instincts, call for the greatest reduction of activity in the future. For this reason, drugs are the worst of all stimulants (irritants).

There is only one way to secure rest for overworked organs or for an overworked body—this is to stop working them. How can an organ be rested by lashing it with tonics ,and stimulants (irritants) as is the prevailing practice today? In acute disease there is increased action in the system. Frequently patients feel better than usual just before the “onset” of acute symptoms. This is due to irritation. Irritation occasions increased action, so that the patient feels stronger and more vigorous while he is getting sick. But when he is getting well, that is after the “onset” of symptoms and during convalescence, he is weak. “Disease” begins with irritation which occasions an exaltation of function so that the individual is deluded into the belief that he is growing stronger and getting well, and this, at the very time and by the very means that his health being impaired. This condition of irritation is called stimulation. “All stimulants and tonics,” says Dr. Walter, “cause increased function because they are irritating or exciting in their nature, and tend to destroy health instead of recuperate it. Recovery, on the contrary, is being effected by rest and consequent reduced function

of the organ or of the organism as a whole.”—*Vital Science*, p. 200.

Rest, like sleep, reduces function and restores health. Rest in bed is of tremendous importance. But of even greater importance is as complete rest of all the organs of the body as it is possible to secure. This may be obtained by cutting off all sources of stimulation, resting in bed and ceasing to eat for a few days. The work of the liver, lungs, kidneys, heart, stomach, glands, etc., is determined largely by the amount and kind of food eaten. To cease eating for a time affords the most complete rest to the vital organs and permits them to carry forward their work of replenishment and repair very perfectly, so that they are soon restored to normal condition. Rest and sleep are the great representative restorative processes. The excitement of irritation (stimulation) wastes power and substance.

A tired man may feel strong in the presence of danger. He may forget his fatigue under excitement. A cold plunge or a hot shower may exhilarate him for the moment. A cup of coffee or a dose of some drug may increase his strength. A few snappy exercises may “pep” him up. But these things do not recuperate power nor repair tissue. On the contrary, they exhaust power and destroy tissue. “An evil indulgence,” says Dr. Walter, *Life’s Great Law*, p. 192, “instead of obviously depleting our powers, produces on the contrary an increased consciousness of power, often a pleasing exhilaration, due to the vital resistance which it arouses, thus giving an appearance of vigor at the very time and by the same means that it is exhausting the power and providing for a reduction of vigor.”

A cold bath is a wasteful process. It “stimulates” powerfully and robs one of the strength it appears to give. It is a developing process in that it forces the body to develop its resistance to cold. Some exposure to cold is not only necessary but unavoidable. But the cold morning bath brings no adequate returns for the expenditure. Sea bathing is a summer indulgence along the sea coast. It is an utterly wasteful process. It invariably results in enervation, necessitating long weeks of lassitude in which to recuperate. Athletics are processes of development. As indulged today in school, college and professionally, they waste life. Processes of development are processes of expenditure, and when carried to excess necessarily result in exhaustion. Such things call forth power. They never produce nor communicate power. To be strictly accurate “processes of development” are not such in reality; the real processes of development are the silent processes of life and these reach their maximum during rest and sleep. If great development communicates power, the powerful and fully developed gymnast or strong man should live forever. If lungs, and stomach, and heart manufacture vitality, if food and air and exercise are the sources of life force, then hearty feeders and powerful athletes should never die.

“We urge,” writes Dr. Walter, “the largest development in all right ways, but to secure it we are sure that recuperation is the important prerequisite. The secondary effect is the opposite of the primary. Recuperation provides for development; we can never get out of man what is not in him. Let us fill the reservoir with power, and the work of getting it out in scholarship, athletics, or business, will prove a delight, not a hardship. Social, political, or financial triumphs will be real enjoyments whenever the vital reservoir becomes bubbling over with the animation which belongs to abundant vitality.” —*Life’s Great Law*, p. 277.

The mode of living in this age produces such a waste of power and such a sense of weariness that only the limited few ever know the supreme delights and the enviable luxury of power in reserve. They keep up their semblance of vigor by means of stimulation and seldom take sufficient time to re-charge their vital or nervous batteries. Nights are turned into day, while mental and nervous poise is exceedingly rare. All poison habits, all excesses, the indulgence of any or all the passions constitute distinct drains upon the vital resources and are fruitful sources of diminished vitality, crippled usefulness and shortened life. modern life presents us with an almost unlimited variety of means of stimulation, excitement, thrills, and dissipations chiefly originating in the clever but perverted ingenuity of those who reap rich financial rewards from these things.

Enervation, nervous prostration, melancholia, and other forms of insanity are always close at hand. “For years,” says Dr. Felix Oswald, “the infinite patience of Nature labors every night to undo the mischief of every day,” but when people spend half their nights in feverish activity, nature cannot fully succeed in her recuperative work. The functions of the body begin to lag. It is, of course, a natural sequence that the decadence of an entire organism must follow the waning functions of the individual organs.

All such exhaustions are so many forms of feebleness and require time and rest to be recovered from. The amount of rest that will be required in any given case will be determined by the degree of exhaustion and the amount of organic repair that must be made. We divide rest into four classes—mental, physical, sensory and physiological. This classification is more or less arbitrary and only serves as a convenience. Let us briefly glance at each form.

Mental rest is secured by poisoning the mind, and removing all sources of disturbance and annoyance—noises, talk, fears, anxieties, worries, etc. People in civilized life have lost that poise and mental and emotional relaxation and repose that characterize the animal and so-called savage world. They must be taught to recultivate poise and self-control. Mental rest is best secured by change of scenes

from the haunts of business or pleasure in the gas-laden atmosphere of the towns and cities, with their incessant noise and hubbub, to the delights of a country retreat in some picturesque district abounding in pleasant, varied surroundings with fresh breezes of health playing about him and over-head from morning to night; where he may enjoy the quiet repose of nature and bask in her healthful sunshine.

Physical rest is secured by ceasing physical activities and going to bed. In bed one must lie quiet. Relaxation and repose are essential. A tensed, contracted condition of the body is incompatible with rest. Rolling and tossing on the bed prevents rest. A hard, comfortable bed, a comfortable temperature, with not too much cover, are essential to rest.

Sensory rest: We expend much energy in seeing, hearing, tasting, feeling, smelling and in the thrills of sense. Quiet and a suspension, more or less complete, of sensory activity means a great saving of energy. Sensory rest is obtained daily by everyone in sleep, but the sick individual, to whom, often the light of day hurts his eyes, needs to get away from sense activities for a longer period in order to restore normal nerve energy.

Physiological rest is secured partly as a result of the above three forms of rest, partly as a result of stopping the food intake. Food works the stomach, intestines, liver, lungs, kidneys, glands, heart, etc., and when the amount of food consumed is reduced, the amount of work these organs must do is decreased. If all food is abstained from, their work is reduced still more. All “stimulants” overwork the organs of the body and when these are abandoned these organs are allowed to rest.

No greater or better condition or combination of conditions can be brought together to promote recuperation and, through this, invigorate and increase the efficiency of all the organs and functions of the body, than that of mental, sensory, physical and physiological rest. Nothing will promote elimination as these do; nothing else so effectively hastens repair of tissue and restoration of health.

Rest requires quiet and relaxation. Noise and tenseness hinder rest. Over heating and chilling also interfere with rest. Night is the period par excellence for rest; however, it will be noted that animals have a habit of retiring to the shade during the hot mid-day hours and resting. Savage tribes do likewise. Andrew Combe tells us that a little over a century ago the tradesmen of Edinburg used to indulge in a “nooning,” a general suspension of business for two hours, in the middle of the day. Hispanic America indulges in its afternoon nap or siesta. With the coming of a civilization based on the welfare of man rather than the private profit of the few, we will adopt this practice universally. It should be adopted at once in the Southern United States.

XIII. Sleep — Repose

MOCK SLEEP—Narcosis

NORMAL SLEEP

RULES FOR SLEEPING

SLEEPLESSNESS – INSOMNIA

Sleep may be defined as the periodic suspension of all the functions of external relation, thus affording complete rest of body, mind and special senses, that is, complete rest of all the voluntary functions. Profound sleep is a complete suspension of mental and sensory activity and is attended with entire unconsciousness. The involuntary functions of the body—respiration, circulation, secretion, excretion, digestion—continue throughout life with but little abatement or modification. When these are temporarily suspended, we have suspended animation, a phenomenon of common occurrence in certain of the lower orders of life, and I believe serves a definite end, just as do rest and sleep—is rest and sleep, perhaps, pushed to the extreme limit. Ordinarily, however, for the vegetative functions of life, there is no cessation, and scarcely any diminution of activity, except in pathologic states, from the beginning of life until death.

Sleep is complete repose, because not only are the muscles of animal life relaxed and inactive, but those of organic life work less vigorously. Respiration and heart beat are less frequent, temperature is slightly lowered and there is a greatly reduced output of carbon-dioxide. There is, therefore, a greatly lessened production of waste, a much diminished expenditure of cellular substances and energy and, on the other hand, a great increase in the elimination of waste and of renewal of the tissues.

Although the purpose of sleep seems to be quite obvious, it has always been somewhat of a mystery to man and he has sought to understand it. Pyrrho, the ancient skeptic, after years of trying to understand sleep, declared he did not know which is the real human life—the sleeping or the waking state. Of course, to us today, we think of both phases of life as integral parts of the whole. The sleeping state is essential as a preparation for the next state of wakefulness. But there is something about sleep that appeals to the love of mystery that resides in all of us. Here we see the living reduced to a state of apparent lifelessness; one in which the savage mother, for example, pinches her sleeping baby to see if it is still alive, yet from which it readily and quickly returns to a state of activity. In sleep we see consciousness reduced to unconsciousness, so that we do not see or feel or smell or hear or taste and are unaware of the passage of time. Yet we have power to return to consciousness after a period of sleep. The strong, healthy, energetic man lies down and soon lapses

into unconsciousness, shutting the whole world out from his mind, sleeping soundly and not dreaming. After a time he again becomes conscious, opens his eyes and is ready to resume his activities. His energies have been renewed; his feeling of wellbeing has been increased.

Many ingenuous efforts have been made to explain how and why we sleep. Perhaps the most commonly accepted theory of why we sleep is that it is due to the accumulation of *fatigue poisons* in the blood stream during the waking state. This is to say: sleep is a state of poisoning. If this were true, it would seem to be impossible to consciously and deliberately stay awake beyond the point of toxic saturation that produces sleep. Also, it would seem to be impossible to sleep unless one is fatigued. What, then, becomes of the fact that one may be too tired to sleep? Poisoning results in excitement, sleeplessness, stupor, coma, delirium, death; but not in sleep. It is time we cease to attribute the normal processes of life to poisoning and cease to regard these normal processes as somehow abnormal and pathological.

Another effort to account for sleep rests on the speculation that primitive man did not sleep. It assumes that the more daring of primitive men wandered out at night and were killed off by wild beasts, while the less daring, the cowards, remained hidden and learned to shut out the world from consciousness—a thing called sleep. This is merely one of the many examples of the arm-chair solution of problems that Darwinism encourages. The assumption that primitive man tended to wander around at night is opposed by all that we know of so-called primitives as well as what we know of non-predatory animal life.

These theories, like all other theories of sleep, start with the implied assumption that sleep is not fundamental, that it is an accident or an incident of the waking state. They all seem to be based on the assumption that life came into existence wide awake and was intended to always remain so. It does not do so because there is some hitch in the machinery of life. On the basis of these assumptions, many have actually proposed to abolish sleep entirely. The late Thomas A. Edison once remarked: "The time will come when man will have learned to do without sleep." A man who was unable to invent a phonograph that would run eternally, would not run down and would not require re-winding, made this statement about sleep because the scientific mind of today is ruled by chaos. Life is conceived of as some form of perpetual motion, in which, unfortunately, there is some hitch in the vital machinery. In time we will eliminate the "hitch" and will then no longer require sleep.

On September 14, 1927, Irenee du Pont, of the gun powder and chemical du Ponts, told the members of the American Chemical Society that there was prospect of discovering a drug to take the place of sleep. He said that in time to come, the

overtired worker, after a hard day's grind, may swallow a pill, or jab himself in the arm with a needle, and thereafter come up smiling, ready to stay up all night. This is an expression of the growing egomania of chemists, but it is also an outgrowth of the belief that sleep is not a normal need of life.

The theory held by men who call themselves scientists is that, energy is produced by digestion, circulation and respiration—chiefly that energy is released by the oxidation of carbon. Theoretically, they say, so long as digestion, respiration and circulation go on, energy should be produced indefinitely and vigor should be continuous. To these men, the need for sleep is an admitted mystery. They attempt to account for sleep in several ways, but at present, it is generally regarded as the result of a combination of factors, such as relaxation of certain blood-vessels, accumulation of waste products and some type of fatigue-blockage in the sensory nerves. While they say that sleep is “one of the most important of all factors relating to vital energy,” they describe it as a more or less pathological state.

By many sleep is regarded as a waste of time, hence the effort to find means of doing away with its necessity. We know, however, that no action can occur without a corresponding reaction; effort must be followed by rest. Human energy is not an inexhaustable quantity. The pendulum of human energy cannot swing always in one direction. Man must cease his activities and recharge his vital or nervous batteries. Body, mind and special senses must rest.

In sleep, breathing is lower, and less full, heart action is reduced, circulation is slower, the brain is dormant, the senses are at rest and metabolism is said to be reduced. The statement that metabolism is reduced during sleep is based on a very one-sided view of metabolism—one that regards metabolism and oxidation as identical. Only the catabolic phase of metabolism is reduced. Anabolism is increased. While there is reduced oxidation, there is reason to believe that the body stores oxygen during sleep. Certain it is that during the period of sleep, when so many of the functions of life are reduced or suspended, certain other functions are increased. Growth and repair proceed at their maximum during the sleeping state. Apparently a passive state, the sleeping state is one of great activity. The silent, unobserved processes of life are most active and efficient during this period. In sleep there is a suspension of certain activities and a concomitant acceleration of others. Processes of wear and expenditure are reduced to a minimum, while processes of repair and recuperation are speeded up to their maximum. In early infancy, when less work is done, and fatigue is least, but when growth is most rapid, we sleep most. Sleep proves to be a process of recuperation, of building, of repair and replenishment.

The state of sleep has been compared to the foetus in utero, which has been

described as being in a perpetual sleep until aroused at birth. The foetal existence of an animal is the period of its most rapid growth and development and also its period of least activity. Rest is essential to growth and development and equally as essential to repair, renewal and renovation. During the whole of rest and sleep, a process of renovation and repair goes on throughout the whole of the organs of animal life. It has long been known and recently shown by experiments that the first two to four hours of sleep are the deepest and soundest; that more effort is required to awaken a sleeper during this period than subsequently, and that during this time one derives most benefit from sleep. The sounder or deeper the sleep the more efficient is the renovating process.

I would classify sleep as a function, just as activities of various kinds represent various functions. Only in moments of quiescence do we give the powers of life an opportunity to inaugurate reparative and recuperative work. Sleep, therefore, instead of being a mere negative quality, consequent upon the accumulation of too much poisoning for the organism to continue operations, is a most vital and positive organic process. It is not a condition of mere passiveness, but one of active repair and replenishment of tissue.

Strength is regained, when exhausted by the labors of the day, by rest, by sleep, and in no other way. It is only by a night of sleep that the fatigued body becomes renewed, re-invigorated, recharged after the day's activities. During sleep energies are renewed, cells replenished, tissues repaired, and organs made ready for renewed work. This replenishment and recuperation may be called *vital reinforcement*. Every night has to undo the mischief of every day. The powers of evil would forge ahead with ever greater speed were it not for the arrangement of the night of rest and sleep and of abstinence from the indulgences of the day.

It may be truly affirmed that sleeping and waking are inseparable factors of the unity of being. They represent the ebb and flow of the vital tides. It has been truly said that sleep and wakefulness have never been standardized. We are often half asleep when we are said to be awake; we are often half awake when we are said to be asleep. Except where something has "queered" the vital balance and disturbed the vital rhythm, sleep and wakefulness are probably about equal in the lives of most of us.

While it is true that only those parts and organs which are dominated by consciousness cry out for rest, there is need for rest of all the organs. Sleep may be defined as that physiological state of the organism in which the nervous system is "re-charged," tissues throughout the body are repaired and replenished, and the whole organism is prepared for further activity. I would emphasize the physiological

character of sleep. It is the height of the ridiculous to assert that the period of sleep, a period of active tissue repair and replenishment, is a condition of poisoning—that is a pathological condition, a disease. On the basis of the fallacy that sleep is a state of poisoning, the unconscious condition known as narcosis, or drug-induced hypnosis, has been mistaken for sleep. We have mistaken a definitely pathological condition for one that is purely physiological.

While there is evidence that cerebral anemia exists during sleep and this is said to be the immediate cause of sleep, we are not usually told what causes the cerebral anemia. Sleep and cerebral anemia seem to be concomitant results of the lessening of nervous activity. The activity of the nervous system is primary and the reduced inflow of blood to the brain is always secondary, just as is a similar reduced inflow of blood to the muscles. Every fact of physiology reveals that nervous activity is primary and blood-flow is secondary. Sleep results from a purposeful withdrawal of nervous activity. Sleeplessness results when stimulants, worry, apprehension, etc., prevent the lessening of nervous activity.

We may think of sleep and waking as the two poles of vital activity—the one positive the other negative. These two states of action and dormancy represent two fundamental phases of life. One is as essential to health as the other. If man possessed an infinite supply of energy, if he were in fact, as many practitioners of all schools of so-called healing seem to think he is, a perpetual motion machine, the use of the vital assets in the waking state would make no difference. But, constituted as he is, the dormant state represented by sleep, and to a great extent by rest in the waking state, is essential to the “production” of surplus energy for future use.

If we think of sleeping and waking as organic polar states, the conscious state being *positive*, the unconscious state being *negative*, and of the human organism as a vital alternator, we may easily comprehend that all this talk about dispensing with sleep or doing away with the need for sleep is sheer nonsense. We can dispense with the periodic polarity of the organism about as readily as we can destroy any of the other polarities of nature. All nature is bi-polar. All polarities are associated with the cosmic scheme and are not destructible. They may be interfered with but not destroyed.

In the sleeping state the body stores energy; in the waking state it discharges energy. All constructive work, partial or total, must be credited to the inactive and sleeping period. How true it is that “the good of all exercise is developed in rest.” We cannot dispense with the period of energy-storage, if we are to continue to have energy to discharge during the waking state.

The quantity and quality of food is inseparably connected with sleep. The diet-

sleep factor of life produces surplus for future consumption, that the balance in the vital economy may be maintained. Excessive quantities of food call for abnormal amounts of sleep, thus diminishing the normal waking or working hours. Fat accumulates, the organism is weakened and life shortened. Persons afflicted with obesity are out of balance. A direct ratio exists between the abnormal sleeping and the abnormal accumulation of fatty tissue.

Sleep is the great representative restorative process; activity and excitement are the great representative processes of exhaustion. It is during sleep, when the external powers are in repose, that the vital powers build up and replenish tissue and recuperate power. Nutrition goes on at its best when the abnormal disturbance which is called stimulation is least. Stimulation and nutrition are antagonistic processes. If we gain strength by relaxation and sleep, how may we gain strength by taking “tonics”? Tonic excitement is the exact opposite of relaxation and repose. To recommend rest and relaxation to a patient and give a “tonic” at the same time is insanity. Rest and “tonic” excitement are antithetical processes.

MOCK SLEEP—Narcosis

The sleeping person is unconscious, but unconsciousness is not necessarily sleep. Unconsciousness may result from shock, as from a blow in the head, loss of blood, electric shock, poisoning, etc. When a *narcotic*, *hypnotic*, or *soporific* drug is given, the victim of the ill-advised dose becomes unconscious, a state of stupor that is wrongly called sleep. Physicians and physiologists who regard sleep as normally a state of poisoning, resulting from the accumulation of “fatigue poisons,” may logically regard narcosis as sleep, but this state of profound poisoning cannot be regarded as sleep upon any sane basis.

Sleep is normal or physiological, narcosis is abnormal or pathological. Sleep is normal function, narcosis is an abnormal action-disease. The only thing that the state of narcosis has in common with the state of sleep is that of unconsciousness. In every other particular they are opposites. Drugs produce poisoning, not sleep. Narcosis is a condition similar to or identical with *anesthesia*. The difference between narcosis and anesthesia seems to be primarily one of degree. In this state of poisoning the body must devote its entire attention and almost all of its energies to resisting and expelling the poison, else would death result.

In sleep, the body is actively engaged in its most efficient reparative and building processes; in narcosis, it is actively engaged in resisting and throwing off a poison. This is the reason that sleep is a process of renewal and recuperation while narcosis is

an exhausting process. The first conserves energy, the second wastes energy. Disagreeable after effects always follow these periods of mock-sleep. Drowsiness, headache, lassitude, weakness and trembling of the limbs are the most common symptoms following a period of mock-sleep. Often the eyes are bleary and ability to do work requiring skill and accuracy is much reduced. No man needs sleep like the man who has just *awakened* from a period of mock-sleep.

So-called “sleep” producing drugs are all virulent poisons, are cumulative in their effects and are habit-forming. They not only do not remove the cause of sleeplessness, but their use actually induces sleeplessness. To call these poisons *remedies* is to do violence to language, if indeed, it is not to be guilty of deliberate misrepresentation. Deaths from “over doses” of these drugs are of frequent occurrence.

Healthy sleep differs from the state of coma and apparent death induced by disease, drugs, asphyxiation and drowning, in that, when the animal is aroused from sleep, he feels refreshed and renovated and is ready for action, whereas, the animal aroused from coma, from whatever cause, is languid and exhausted and not fitted for action. This, however, is not the fault of the coma, but of the causes that induced it. They are different from the causes that induce sleep and their effects are not speedily and effectively overcome. There can be no doubt that coma is a defensive measure.

Following sleep, the muscles are stronger, following narcosis, the muscles are weak and tremulous. The will is weakened by narcosis; it is strengthened by sleep. Weakness and paralysis of the nerves follow the use of narcotics; the nerves are renewed and strengthened in sleep. In sleep, the heart beat is regular; in narcosis, the heart-beat is irregular, even excited. A night of sleep prepares the digestive organs for the normal performance of their functions; narcosis leaves the digestive organs weak—there is nausea, a furred tongue, loss of appetite, dyspepsia, sometimes jaundice.

The whole body rests during sleep; no part of the body rests during narcosis. During sleep the body repairs and replenishes itself and recuperates and renews its energies; in narcosis there is waste and tearing down, followed by exhaustion. After sleep one awakens pleasant and cheerful; after narcosis one is melancholy, frequently suicide follows. Sleep has been truly described as “tired nature’s sweet restorer;” narcosis may be with equal appropriateness, described as tired nature’s sour destroyer. To take a so-called sleep-inducing drug is to invite disaster. No sane man can ever prescribe such poisons for his patients.

NORMAL SLEEP

Normal sleep is attended with entire unconsciousness and is dreamless. Dreaming indicates imperfect rest. In default of this oblivion sleep is only partial. It is not perfect nervous repose. It indicates some disturbing cause, some source of irritation and worry, such as “stimulation” (poisoning), indigestion, worry, fear or mental excitement. Any source of mental and physical discomfort and excitement will disturb or prevent sleep.

The amount of sleep required will vary with the varying habits and occupations of individuals. Those who are most active will require most sleep. Meat eaters, as in the animal kingdom, require more sleep than vegetarians. Mental workers require more sleep than physical workers. Those who dissipate much must sleep much. The sick require more sleep than the well. The accepted rule of eight hours in twenty-four is probably not enough, for, as Trall says: “The statute of nature appears to read: Retire soon after dark, and arise with the first rays of the morning light; and this is equally applicable to all climates and all seasons, at least in all parts of the globe proper for human habitation, for in the cold season, when the nights are longer, more sleep is required.” When man learned to turn the night into day he forsook this natural rule.

RULES FOR SLEEPING

For best results in sleeping a few simple rules should be observed. At midnight a profound quietude pervades every living thing, animal and vegetable. Quietude, rest and isolation furnish the best possible circumstance for the most rapid recuperation of vital power. Night, when there is an absence of light, which has a tendency to enliven man, is the best time for sleep.

The bedding should be as hard, and the bed-clothing as light as a due regard for comfort will permit. A hot jug to the feet will assure warmth if the weather is cold. If one is chilled one does not sleep.

Heavy meals, indigestible and “stimulating” foods, “stimulating” beverages, as tea, coffee, cocoa, chocolate, alcohol, soda fountain drinks, etc., and all drugs should be avoided, as these prevent sound, restful sleep. If sleep is inclined to be restless, vapory and dreamy during the nights, the evening meal should be omitted.

Do not sleep on pillows. Avoid all crooked bodily positions. Relax the body and mind as fully as possible. If sleep does not come immediately do not fuss and fume over it. Worry will keep you awake. Do not roll and toss in bed. This will exhaust you. Lie still and rest. Do not get up and walk the floor. Relax and rest, you’ll go to sleep much quicker. Don’t try to go to sleep. The effort will keep you awake. Don’t resort to any kind of sleep producers or any sleep inducing procedures, however

harmless these may appear to be. Have your bed room well ventilated. Flood it with sunshine during the day. Whenever possible sleep out doors.

SLEEPLESSNESS – INSOMNIA

Sleeplessness declares Page, “is often referred to as a cause of insanity, but it would be much nearer the truth to say that insanity causes sleeplessness.

“To attack insomnia as a disease instead of a symptom, is sure to result in discomfiture, in the great majority of cases and is in every instance unsound in principle. A man is wakeful at night because under his present physical condition he ought to be—just as in diarrhea, the looseness is doing its work of cure. Let him know that sleeplessness is an analogue of pain, and he will, or may, bear it philosophically, and thus tend to its removal.

“But, thinking all the while that it is sleep only that he needs, his sleeplessness distresses him, causes him to be more alarmed, and, consequently, has the effect to postpone the oblivion so devoutly prayed for, but so little earned. To deserve sleep is to have it.”— *The Natural Cure*, pp. 133–4–5.

A heartening fact is that when careful observation is made upon almost any group of established insomniacs it is revealed that almost all of them sleep soundly for a sufficiently long total period of time even on their most restless nights. Many times have I gone into the rooms of my patients who complained of not being able to sleep night after night and found them soundly asleep, even snoring. Next morning they would assure me in all seriousness that they never closed their eyes all night. An hour of wakefulness at night seems like a whole night; while hours of sleep seem but a few minutes. This is due to the fact that the hours seem to drag so slowly at night if we are awake, while we are wholly unconscious of the passage of time if we are asleep. The insomniac who is fully convinced that he never closed his eyes all night is generally quite mistaken. The essential outward symptom of sleep is unconsciousness, which means that the sleeper does not remember that he slept. There are, on the other hand, neurotics who deliberately keep themselves awake hour after hour.

Our miseducated people are altogether too ready to resort to drugs when they think they cannot sleep, and the commercial ghouls who prey upon the ignorant dupes of the drug superstition will go to great lengths to make drug addicts of them. *Insomnia* is a big business for the manufacturers of “sleep” inducing drugs and these firms do not hesitate to advertise their wares. Then, too, the world is full of miseducated physicians who do not hesitate to prescribe these dangerous drugs to

their sleepless patients instead of seeking for the cause of sleeplessness and removing this. Physicians are responsible for a great army of drug addicts that is constantly being recruited from among their patients.

One should lie down after a half-hour of quiet and freedom from exciting mental exercise and then, when one draws the covers over oneself, it should be with a sublime indifference as to whether one shall or shall not fall asleep immediately. Resort to no *sleep producers*. Such efforts at subduing the senses, as attempts to shut out external impressions by closing the eyes, stopping the ears and lowering the sensibilities generally, are frequently the causes of persistent wakefulness. Efforts to go to sleep by repeating metaphysical formulas are fruitless and often keep one awake. Any exercise of the higher mental faculties will tend to keep one awake. One remains awake because one tries to go to sleep. To endeavor to go to sleep is a mistake.

Narcotics or “sleeping”-draughts do not produce sleep, but stupor. Their use is both irrational and injurious, and if long continued, fatal. They produce a worse form of sleeplessness than that for which they are given.

Go to bed, relax, let go—do not roll and toss on the bed, do not get up and walk the floor, do not worry and fret—and calmly await sleep. Let your eyelids finally droop in sleep because you are truly sleepy. Every effort to force sleep keeps you awake and prevents both mind and body from resting. Cut out your coffee, tobacco and other excitants and earn your sleep. Then, and not until then, will you have normal sleep. Do not turn the night into day. Time is never wasted in recuperation.

XIV. Air and Light in the Home

Home! In many parts of our country the majority of the population does not know what is a home. Troglodyte like, they “crawl” into the gloomy caves that penetrate the high canyon walls on each side of the narrow city streets and make the best of it. A large apartment house full of people resembles nothing more than it resembles a hive full of bees.

Home should be a place of peace and quiet. The cities are full of noise. Home should be a place of beauty. It is rarely this. The outgrounds of the home should be spacious and covered with grass, trees and flowers. There should be room for the children to play. Someday every home will also have a gymnasium. In the larger cities there are no outgrounds and one must go to the park to see trees, grass and flowers. The homes of the poor, even in the smaller towns, often lack these things.

Homes should be clean. On the farm and in the smaller cities and towns they commonly adjoin cow-lots, horse-stables, pig-pens, chicken-houses and other unclean and air befouling things. In the cities and elsewhere pets are often kept in the house. Cleanliness is difficult, often impossible under these conditions.

Carpets, rugs, curtains, drapes, upholstery, etc., are dust traps. They make cleanliness difficult or impossible. Curtains and shades exclude the sun, shutters often exclude the air, and in general these things tend to render the home less healthful.

In the cities, and particularly in the slum sections, over-crowding is common. Too many people eat and sleep in the same small room. In some of the older apartment houses of New York City's east side, the odor in the hallways and stairways is such that one unaccustomed to such odor is very uncomfortable and finds it difficult to breathe.

In winter many homes are kept stifling hot, while, in order to save fuel, the windows and doors are all closed, even nailed down. Fresh air is allowed to get into the house only with the coming of spring. Such homes are foul and dark and their occupants are always sick.

Many thousands of the wretched troglodytes (cave-dwellers) who live in the penetralia of the slums of our larger cities seem actually to have become fond of the foul air and terrible stench of these foul burrows. Many in-door laborers and sedentary workers also seem to enjoy foul and tobacco fume-laden air. This love for foul air is the product of long continued neglect of nature's demand for fresh air.

The sleeping quarters of the old ships, where the sailors slept, are described by Dr. Oswald as reeking with “an atmosphere a little better than that of the Calcutta

Black Hole and a little worse than that of a sewer tunnel.” Samuel Johnson expressed surprise that men would go to sea if they had an option of going to jail. “The discomfort,” he said, “is not worse, and the risk of sudden death less.” Thousands died of suffocation in the swelter hospitals of the period. On Captain Cook’s first South Sea voyage a swarm of friendly islanders came aboard, and had a picnic on the forecastle, but nothing would satisfy them short of a peep at the nightquarters of their hosts. Down they clambered with the agility of monkeys, but came back even faster, sneezing and clutching their noses as if they had inhaled spirits of ammonia. That plunge into the accumulated stench of a hundred nights was too much for their sensitive nasal and lung membranes. The next day every one of them suffered with lung congestion.

After his Siberian experiences, Marshal Munich had not the slightest doubt that he could get acclimatized to the atmosphere of Hell. “Even my seasoned head reeled in the foul reek of that den,” said the author of the *Cachelot Cruise*. Only by what Dr. Oswald called “that marvelous faculty of adaptation that enables human beings to endure blue pills and blue laws,” were men enabled to endure such foul and unhealthful conditions. That the foulness existed in the hospitals and no breath of fresh air was permitted in the sick room until the coming of the *Hygienic* movement is one of the seven most astounding evils of the past.

The opium habit may be acquired in a few weeks and the natural repugnance to tobacco and alcohol overcome after a few trials; but it requires years of continual struggle against the physical conscience, before the voice of instinct is finally silenced, and the painful longing for the out-of-doors and the free air of the fields, woods and mountains gives way to that anaesthesia by which nature palliates evils for which she has no remedy, and one may settle down to enjoy the effluvia of our “prisons.”

Though the Greeks and Romans were familiar with the manufacture of glass, they never used it to obstruct their windows. The windows of the temples, palaces and dwelling houses of antiquity, provided to admit light, were open and admitted fresh air at all times. The tuguria of the Roman peasants were simple arbors, and the homes of the Saxons were log-cabins with large cracks that admitted plenty of air; moss was used to stop the cracks on the north and northwest sides.

It was not until after the fourth Christian era that habitual indoor life between closed walls was known, except as the worst form of punishment. Then came the rise of nature-abhorring doctrines and the practice of systematic self-ruin.

The troglodyte-habit is the direct offspring of mediaeval monachism, for “men had to be utterly divorced from Nature before they could prefer the hot stench of their

dungeons to the cool breezes of heaven” and the monastic system of ethics proved itself equal to the need. It taught man to distrust the competency of his natural instincts.

Ulric Hutten says; “The monastic recluse closes every aperture of his narrow cell on his return from midnight prayers, for fear that the nightingale’s song might intrude upon his devotions, or the morning wind visit him with the fragrance and the greeting of the hill forests, and divert his mind to earthly from things spiritual. He dreads a devil wherever the Nature-loving Greeks worshiped a God.”

How different this to the experience of General Sam Houston, liberator of Texas, who had spent most of his life among the Cherokee Indians, and who was ever afterwards unable to prolong his presence in a crowded hall or ill-ventilated room more than ten or twelve minutes. He described his sensations on entering such a place as one of “uneasiness, increasing to positive alarm, such as a mouse might be supposed to feel under an air-pump.”

Dr. Oswald says: “These narrow cells, the dungeons of the Inquisition, the churches whose painted windows excluded not only the air but the very light of heaven, the prison-like convent-schools, and the general control exercised by the Christian priests over the domestic life of their parishioners, laid the foundation of a habit which, under the name of ‘salutary precautions,’ inspires us with fear of the night air, of ‘cold draughts,’ of morning dews, and of March winds.” He suggested that mistrust of our instincts has been the source of more misery in modern times than all the sensual excesses and ferocious passions of our forefathers taken together. For more than eighteen hundred years our “spiritual guides” have taught us to consider Nature and everything natural as wholly evil, and to substitute therefor the supernatural and the artificial, in physical as well as in moral life.

They substituted dogma for science, suppressed investigation to foster belief, “substituted love of death for the love of life, celibacy for marriage, the twilight of their gloomy vaults for the sunshine of the Chaldean Mountains, and their dull religious ‘exercises’ for the joyous games of the Palloestra.”

“Beware of the night-wind; be sure and close your windows after dark”—thus ran the old advice. “In other words,” said Dr. Oswald, “Beware of God’s free air; be sure and infect your lungs with the stagnant, azotized, and offensive atmosphere of your bedroom. In other words, beware of the rock spring; stick to sewerage.”

Fear of night-air, like the fear of cool water, raw fruit, etc., is founded on that mistrust of our natural instincts which we owe to our anti-natural religion. The night-air superstition is a theological spawn. Night air is not injurious. Since the day of creation “night air,” which is the same as “day air” and the only kind of air that exists

at night, has been lived in and breathed by millions of different animals—tender, delicate creatures, some of them—fawns, lambs, and young birds. Man, too, has spent his life out-doors, day and night, through most of his existence on earth, even on the coldest and stormiest nights.

When Graham began his crusade, homes were simply not ventilated at night. Thanks to his work and to that of Trall, Densmore, Page, Oswald and others, most people of today open their bedroom windows, even in winter. Not so our fathers and grandfathers. Even on sweltering summer nights the victims of aerophobia excluded the “sweet south wind, blessed by all creatures that draw the breath of life,” from their rooms. Night-air was a deadly foe to life and health.

“What a dismal ignorance of the symbolic language by which Nature expresses her will,” says Dr. Oswald, “is implied by the idea that the sweet breath of the summer night which addresses itself to our senses like a blessing from heaven could be injurious. Yet nine of the ten guests in an overheated ball-room or travelers in a crowded stage-coach will protest if one of their number ventures to open a window after sun down, no matter how glorious the night or how oppressive the effluvia of the closed apartment.”

Millions of homes are still afflicted with the curse of the night-air superstition. The intelligent reader who may think that the night-air superstition is dead needs but do a little investigation to disillusion himself. It exists in every community in America and Europe. In certain parts of Pennsylvania the windows and shutters are both closed, both day and night, thus cutting out both the air and the light. People are still advised not to go out into “night air,” if they have a cold, a “sore throat” or are otherwise ill. Arnold Rikli says, “The worst outside air is preferable to the best inside air.”

“The influence of anti-naturalism,” says Dr. Oswald, “is most strikingly illustrated in our superstitious dread of fresh air. The air of the out-of-door world, of the woods and hills is par excellence, a product of Nature—of wild, free, and untamable Nature—and therefore the presumptive source of innumerable evils. Cold air is the general scape-goat of all sinners against Nature. When the kneejoints of the young debauchee begin to weaken, he suspects he has ‘taken cold.’ If an old glutton has a cramp in his stomach, he ascribes it to an incautious exposure on coming home from a late supper. Toothache is supposed to result from ‘draughts,’ croup, neuralgia, mumps, etc., from the ‘raw March wind.’ When children have been forced to sleep in unventilated bedrooms till their lungs putrefy with their own exhalations, the materfamilias reproaches herself with the most sensible thing she has been doing for the last hundred nights—‘opening the windows last August when the air was so

stifling hot.’ The old dyspeptic, with his cupboards full of patent nostrums, can honestly acquit himself of having yielded to any natural impulse; after sweltering all summer behind hermetically closed windows, wearing flannel in the dog-days abstaining from cold water when his stomach craved it, swallowing drugs till his appetite has given way to chronic nausea, his conscience bears witness that he has done what he could to suppress the original depravity of Nature; only once the enemy got a chance at him: in rummaging his garret for a warming-pan he stood half a minute before a broken window—to that half-minute, accordingly, he attributes his rheumatism. For catarrh there is a stereotyped explanation: ‘Caught cold.’ That settles it. The invalid is quite sure that her cough came on an hour after returning from that sleigh-ride. She felt pain in the chest the moment her brother opened that window. There is no doubt of it—it’s all the night-air’s fault.”

There still exists an unreasoning fear of draughts, and a few years ago “no-draught ventilation” was put into many automobiles. What is a draught? Only air in motion. “Have you ever seen boys skating in the teeth of a snow-storm at the rate of fifteen miles an hour?” asks Dr. Oswald. To the retort that “they counteract the effect of the cold air by vigorous exercise,” he replied: “Does the north wind damage the fine lady sitting motionless in her sleigh, or the pilot and helmsman of a storm-tossed vessel?” Draughts are simply not the cause of “disease.”

Cold air and March winds are no more the causes of “disease” than are night-air and draughts. Every plant and flower and animal thrives well in March wind. “Catarrhs (colds),” says Dr. Oswald, “are not taken by any creature of the open air, not by the fisherman’s boy paddling around in the surf and sitting barefooted in a wet canoe or bareheaded on the windward cliffs, but by the cachetic cadets of the tenement-barracks, where the same air is breathed and rebreathed by the diseased lungs of a regiment of voluntary prisoners.”

Benjamin Franklin, *Essays*, p. 216, says: “I shall not attempt to explain why ‘damp clothes’ occasion colds rather than wet ones, because I doubt the fact. I imagine that neither the one nor the other contributes to this effect, and that the causes of colds are totally independent of wet and even of cold.”

There is simply no rational excuse for not ventilating the home, office and work shop at all hours of the day or night. The fear that the fresh air of heaven will injure the sick is as unfounded as the popular notion that the ostrich buries his head in the sand upon the approach of danger. The sick room should be especially well ventilated.

“On the day of judgement,” wrote Jean Paul, “God will perhaps pardon you for starving your children when bread was so dear; but, if he should charge you with

stinting them in his free air, what answer shall you make?"

No ventilatory contrivance can compare with the simple plan of opening the windows. Open the windows and create a thorough draught. Air circulates poorly in the comers of rooms, hence it is better to have the bed in the center of the room or in front of the window.

Dark homes are not healthful. Sunlight in the home is more valuable than soap and water. Our homes should be built and lighted with more consideration for the health of the occupants than for the color of the rugs and wall paper. "Is it necessary," asked Dr. Taylor, "that the parlors and sitting rooms of our dwellings should be kept so dark and unwholesome?" Dr. Trall said that our "dwelling-houses ought to be constructed with special reference to light. Those rooms which are most occupied should be lighted, as the kitchen and sitting room. The sun should be allowed free access to the yard and out-grounds. Shade-trees and shrubbery, useful to some extent around a dwelling, should never be so thick as to shut the direct rays from the sun out entirely. The influence of light in dissipating and decomposing noxious vapors and deleterious gasses, which collect in and around low grounds and dark places, is very great."

There are a number of "ultra-violet glasses" on the market, all of them rather high in price. The quartz crystal is the only one which permits much of the ultra-violet rays to pass. The amount passing through the others is so small as to be negligible. But even where the quartz crystal is used, it is of no practical value to the occupants of a room except where they sit right in the sun coming through it. Dr. Janet H. Clark, of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene, compared the amount of ultra-violet rays found at the window sill with that found in the center of the room and found that only about 1/120th of the sun's ultra-violet radiation would reach the middle of the room from the north sky. The north sky seems to have been employed because it was considered that clerks, stenographers, school children, etc., could not sit in the glare of direct sunlight—a questionable assumption.

Dr. Clark reports in the magazine, *Science* "If 1-120 of this north sky reaches this point inside it would take 1,200 minutes, or 20 hours, to get one unit of ultra-violet radiation there. Or, in other words, if the room were equipped with ultra-violet transmitting windows, a child would have to sit in that place for 20 hours to get as much ultra-violet radiation as he would get in two minutes out doors in sunlight at noon. The amount is obviously too small to be of any great value. Any child going out to lunch will get more ultra-violet radiation than he could get all day behind a window of ultra-violet transmitting glass."

In the large smoke-laden cities, careful tests and measurements have shown that

the amount of ultra-violet rays in the streets and parks of these cities is small, particularly in winter. Homes, offices and school rooms fitted with ultra-violet transmitting glass would be even less valuable at such a time in such cities. The only remedy, then, is the eradication of the smoke nuisance, but even this will not remedy matters much unless our manner of clothing is greatly changed. These rays are abundant through most of the year, but thick clothing and particularly dark clothing screen them out even more effectively than does smoke. We shall also have to get out doors. The cave and cliff-dwellers of the larger cities will be forced to change their mode of living to a large extent. Daylight saving time has helped them to some degree in this matter; but they have not taken sufficient advantage of it.

Dr. J. Bell Ferguson, a medical health officer of England, had a school room glazed with quartz glass that permits 50 to 65 per cent of the ultra-violet rays of the sun to pass through. Another room of the same size and same exposure was glazed with ordinary lead glass. At the end of nine months, the children who had studied under the quartz glass had gained an average of an inch more in height, and three and a quarter pounds more in weight, than the children under ordinary glass. The result was that this glass is now being used to glaze London's zoo, while a few hospitals are putting it in. At least the animals will be cared for.

Would that we could learn the truth of Michalet's statement that, "*Of all flowers the human flower is the one that needs the sunshine most.*" Rousseau, it seems, made a similar statement. No one would attempt to raise ferns or roses in the darkness, nor to raise plants under a box, yet many still attempt to bring up their children and maintain their own health with their bodies always in darkness.

XV. Care of the Skin

Man lives, moves and has his being between his investing membrane, known as the skin and the mucous membrane. I have called them one investing membrane because they are continuous one with the other and are alike in structure. Commonly we refer to the outer covering of the body as the skin and speak of the inner skin, the mucous membrane, as though it is another membrane. Yet the membrane of the mucous system, so-called because of its secretion of mucus by which it is lubricated and kept moist, is not only directly continuous with the skin at every orifice of the body—the mouth, nose, anus, vagina, urethra, ears and eyes—but it also resembles the latter closely in structure, in that it consists of an investing membrane, *epithelium*, analogous to the epidermis externally, and of a reticulated tissue of blood vessels, nerves and follicles bound up in areolar tissue, and resting on deeper tissue of the same nature as the areolar, which takes the place of the corium of the skin.

This mucous membrane lines the internal cavities of the body that communicate either directly or indirectly with the outside world. Thus, one division, after lining the mouth, passes down through the throat and lines the esophagus, stomach, intestines and colon, giving off prolongations in its course, which line the ducts of the pancreas and those of the liver, including the gall bladder. Another division passes from the nose and back part of the throat into the windpipe, and thence into the cavities of the lungs which it lines even down to their minutest divisions. Another, but smaller division of the mucous membrane, or “inner skin,” lines the urinary and genital organs, while still smaller divisions line the eye lids and invest the eyes and another lines the ear. All of these divisions of the mucous membrane are continuous with the skin which they “meet” at the orifices of the body.

Anything that has not passed through this investing membrane —the skin on the outer surface of the body and the mucous membrane on the inner surfaces of the body —into the fluids and tissues below (or between) these two outer walls of the citadel of life, is not in the body. This means that food in the digestive tract and, air in the lungs, are not in the body, while urine in the bladder or bile in the gall bladder are already outside the body. Feces in the colon is outside the body. The digestion of food takes place outside the body. Food is actually taken into the body only after it has been properly refined, standardized and reduced to usable substances. In this chapter we are concerned with man’s outer skin.

The human skin, which is the largest organ of the body, the entire skin weighing twice as much as the liver, its surface averaging about 3,100 square inches, is a very complex structure and its importance is in proportion to its size, as it performs a

variety of functions, each of which is of vital importance to life. The fact that it is capable of receiving one-third of the circulating blood of the body should, alone, indicate its tremendous importance.

A little patch of human skin about the size of a postage stamp contains two sensory apparatuses for cold; twelve for heat, three thousand sensory cells of touch, twenty-five pressure apparatuses, two hundred nerve endings to record pain, an average of one hundred hairs, fifteen sebaceous glands to secrete oil, a hundred sweat glands, a yard of blood vessels, four yards of nerves. To determine the total number of organ structures contained in the skin of the average person, multiply these figures by twenty thousand. All of this, together with its horny outer layer, admirably equips this remarkable organ not only to protect man from inimical factors in his environment but, also, to make proper use of the beneficial factors of the same environment.

The skin is richly supplied with nerves which render it remarkably sensitive to a great variety of changes and contacts in the environment. The various specialized nerve endings or apparatuses in man's skin that enable him to appreciate his environment are those that register pain, those that register contact with objects (touch), those that register pressure, those that register the flow of air currents over the body, those that register heat and cold, those that register traction of the skin—this is the push or pull or raising of the skin. The skin is also thought to have sensitized apparatuses that register certain types of contact that are said to be important in the propagation of the race, as they “tend to excite sexual desires.” These apparatuses are supposed to exist in certain erogeneous zones. These, however, or so it seems to me, are not normally or primitively erogencous zones but become so only by association. These nerves are classed as:

1. *Vasomotor nerves* which are distributed through the walls of the blood vessels and so govern the activities of these vessels.

2. *Motor nerves* which are distributed to the sweat glands and to the muscles at the roots of the hairs—the *erectores pilorum*. Those causing secretion of the glands are called *secretory nerves*.

3. *Thermic nerves*, or nerves which end in “hot” and “cold” spots in the skin and enable us to sense changes in temperature.

4. *Nerves of feeling* or of touch, which enable us to feel and to sense pressure.

5. Nerves that give rise to the sensation of pain.

Briefly, the most important functions of the skin are:

1. It serves as a protective armor for the delicate tissues beneath, preventing them from oxydizing, drying out and protecting them from mechanical and thermic injury.

It is thus, primarily the investing and protective organ of the body.

2. It performs a major role in regulating body temperature. It is the body's radiator, behaving somewhat like a thermostat, except that it is so delicate and acts with such nicety that it puts to shame all man-made devices. The nerves of the skin, which control its blood vessels, cause these vessels to dilate or contract, thus sending more or less blood to the skin depending upon changes of temperature. The nerves that control the sweat glands also cause these to function more rapidly or less rapidly (even causing the pores to contract when cold), depending on the temperature. By contracting when the weather is cold, and thus sending the blood inward, the vessels cut down the loss of heat, by dilating and receiving more blood into the skin in warm weather, they increase the loss of heat.

Sweating is a process of heat radiation. The evaporation of sweat from the body carries heat away and thus cools it off. When the outside temperature is low sweating is reduced; when outside temperature is high sweating is increased. When violent physical effort is engaged in, thus increasing heat production within, sweating is increased; when physical effort is suspended, as in rest, so that internal heat production is lowered, sweating is reduced. There is an automatic adaptation of sweating to the needs of the body to dissipate or conserve its heat.

The height of temperature that can be borne is much greater than is generally known. Past experiments have shown that a heat of over 200 degrees can be endured for a short time, in an oven, without material detriment. Many years ago, Charbert, the "Fire King," would go into an oven and remain there while a beef-steak was cooking. Tillet, of France, recorded the case of a young woman who entered an oven prepared to destroy the insects in certain seeds, and remained there for ten minutes with the thermometer at 288. Drs. Fordyce and Blagden, of England, took observations of themselves while remaining in rooms heated to 250 degrees. They found that while the pulse rate was nearly doubled, breathing was scarcely hurried. Body temperature, as shown by the thermometer in the axilla, was hardly affected. While in the room, the thermometer sank many degrees when breathed upon, while they breathed upon their fingers to cool them.

The skin will tolerate a temperature of dry hot air as high as 250 to 300 degrees; of vapor as high as 140 degrees and of water as high as 115 to 120 degrees. Note that as the amount of water surrounding the body increases the tolerance for heat decreases. This is due to the fact that the more water there is surrounding the body the less readily does evaporation of sweat take place, hence the less efficient is the cooling process. Thus it is that on sultry or humid or muggy days we feel the heat more than when the atmosphere is less humid. Heat tolerance rises as humidity

decreases, it falls as humidity rises. Dry air causes rapid evaporation of sweat from the skin, leaving us comfortable. The more moisture there is in the air, the less rapidly it takes up sweat from the skin, hence on sultry days we are less comfortable. This is the explanation of the truth of the popular saying: “It is not the heat, it is the humidity.”

3. It assists in maintaining normal water balance in the body. As this will be more fully discussed in the chapter on bathing, it is only necessary to say at this place, that by increased or reduced sweating, the amount of water in the body is reduced or conserved.

4. It is the organ of touch, by which it may be said to constitute a very elaborate alarm system. The skin is supplied with millions of microscopic nerve receptors, each a combined receiver and transmitter, by which it communicates to the brain changes in temperature, the “feeling” of things with which it comes in contact, stings, cuts, bruises, etc.

5. It is an organ of internal secretion. There are grounds for believing that it serves, in the presence of sunshine to manufacture certain substances, such as vitamin D out of fats, which it secretes into the blood stream.

6. It has very slight value as an organ of elimination, eliminating salt particularly. The average person knows most about the supposed excretory (eliminating) function of the skin. It often seems more important than the lungs and kidneys as an organ of elimination. This is a fallacy that must be outgrown. The “excretory function” of the skin is relatively of no importance.

In our school physiologies (and these are about thirty years behind time) we learned about how a number of children who had their bodies gilded to serve as cherubs in a play and, as a result of thus preventing elimination through the skin, they collapsed and some of them died. This is a fairy tale, on a par with the popular and ancient false belief that the ostrich buries his head in the sand when he sees danger approaching. Several years ago I pointed out that if such deaths occurred they may have been due to disturbance of the body’s heat regulation, or to poisons in the paint, or to some other cause never determined. Recent experiments have shown that these deaths (if they are not myths) were due to too rapid dissipation of the body’s heat.

It has been found that warm-blooded animals cannot survive when more than half of their body surface is covered over with some impermeable coating such as paint or varnish, unless they are kept artificially warm. There is too rapid dissipation of heat from the varnished surface so that body temperature falls far below normal before death results. A rabbit, for instance, which does not sweat having no sweat glands—will die in a short time if one-fourth of its body surface is varnished or painted over,

unless its temperature is maintained at nearly normal by the use of artificial heat.

7. It is also said to be a respiratory organ, taking in oxygen and giving off carbon dioxide. Brubaker's *Physiology* says that the quantity of carbonic acid exhaled from the skin amounts to about one-two-hundredth of that exhaled from the lungs. There is doubt about the respiratory function of the skin.

There are hairs all over the body, most of them being so fine that they are not noticed, but each hair is equipped with an oil sac, nerve, blood vessel and muscle. Nails, which are parts of the skin, serve not alone as protectors of the ends of the fingers and toes, but as useful organs in doing many things. Besides the sweat glands in the skin, there are also oil glands which secrete oil to keep the skin soft and to prevent it from drying and cracking. This oil also softens the hairs of the body, which, like the nails, are integral parts of the skin. Being full of pores, it would seem that the skin would absorb a lot of water, such as a blotter does, but its oil glands secrete an oil just at the right time and prevent this.

The skin is a tough membrane, designed to protect the body from without, yet it is a very delicate structure, a delicacy that is required by its very protective function. It can and does withstand a lot of abuse, but it is folly to unduly abuse it. We abuse it by excessive heat, cold, friction, water, dryness (excessive dryness of the skin may cause wrinkles), oils, dirt, soaps, lotions, powders, greases, etc. Much of what is understood by women to be proper care of the skin is actually abuse of this vitally important organ.

The skin is an integral part of the body and depends upon the general system for its supply of food and to carry away its waste. Skin health depends primarily upon the general health of the body. All attempts to deal with the skin as an independent entity, without due regard to its reliance upon the general system, must of necessity result in failure. The skin is nourished by the blood and there is no other source from which it can draw sustenance. "Skin foods" are all frauds. These are composed chiefly of grease. No fat can be assimilated by the skin or other tissues of the body until it has first been broken down into its constituent fatty acids in the process of digestion. Even were this not true, the skin contains very little fat and these "skin foods" would still not constitute proper nourishment for it. Blood is the only skin food.

The most important care of the skin is good living habits. A healthy skin depends primarily upon the internal state of the body and any foulness within will sooner or later register itself in skin abnormalities of one kind or another. Any habit of life that lowers the general health standard must lessen skin health, hence detract from the freshness and bloom of a normal skin. Smoking, drinking, the use of tea and coffee, the use of so-called soft drinks, imprudent eating, wrong diet, lack of sleep, and many

other devitalizing elements of conventional life take their toll from the skin.

From without the only constructive influences the skin can receive are cleanliness, sunshine and air. Sun and air exert wholesome influences upon the skin, but they may both be overdone. Indeed, they are commonly overdone by many thousands of frequenters of the beaches in the Summer. When the skin has been burned by the sun, or when it is made dry and coarse these are sure evidences that the possessor has been immoderate in his or her exposure. Much harm may come to it from external sources. Contrary to popular opinion, sun baths do not injure the texture of the skin. Too much bathing, the use of soap and poisonous cosmetics may do so. Affections of the skin will be covered in Vol. VII; here we will discuss only a few common functional disorders.

It is not really necessary for the skin to lose its bloom of youth by the time one reaches middle age. Most women, at least, may preserve a normal smooth, naturally beautiful, soft and clean skin. "The skin you love to touch" may be preserved far into advanced life with a little intelligent care. It is, of course, too much to expect to restore such youthfulness to the skin, once abuse of it has caused it to become thickened, rough and blotched. A partial return to youthfulness is usually possible, but a full return is out of the question. Proper care of the skin should be started early.

The fallacy that the skin needs protection leads to many foolish practices that weaken the skin and leave the possessor liable to all kinds of discomforts and faulty "reactions" when exposed to cold or wet, or to heat and dry. The skin is the normal protector of the body. It does not require to be unduly protected. Most people bundle up too heavily in winter, especially do they wear underwear that is too heavy. The more clothes they wear the more they seem to suffer from the cold.

Oily Skin: Seborrhea, or excessive oiliness of the skin is the result of over activity of the oil glands in the skin. This excess of oil causes the skin to look dirty and shiny. A shiny nose is due to this cause. It is customary for young ladies with shiny noses to powder them and ignore the causes of their trouble. This condition can be remedied only by improving the general health. Exercise, fresh air, sunshine, proper diet and a good general regimen are the only needs.

Local treatments are futile. Patent medicines are frauds. Massage and lotions are ineffective. "Tonics" of iron, arsenic, quinine, cod-liver oil, cathartics, alkaline waters, steaming, sulphur, mercury, salicylic acid, resorcin, boric acid, bran baths, camphor, vinegar, vinegar lotions, almond meal, resin and balms, alkali solutions, X-rays, ultra-violet rays, and other forms of therapeutic magic are of no value. Most of them are distinctly bad.

Dryness: Asteatosis, or drying of the skin, is due to deficient secretion of oil by

the oil glands of the skin. The skin is dry, scaly, harsh and cracks easily. Where this condition does not accompany some other skin trouble, or is not a part of “old age,” it is usually the result of much use of drying applications, alkaline cosmetics, heavy powders and the too frequent use of soap and warm water, or to too much wind and sun. It is frequently due to general malnutrition.

This condition does not call for the use of creams, oils, skin foods, etc., but for a removal of its causes and a general health building regimen. The skin cannot be cared for independent of the whole body. Bland oils, liquid powder, animal fats, boric acid solutions, glycerine in rose water, egg white, thyroid gland extract, etc., belong to voodooism. The skin should be washed with plain cool water. Hot water and soap should be avoided.

Chapping: This is due to lack of oil in the skin or to the removal of too much oil from the skin by too frequent washing, with soap and hot water, drying applications, hard waters, etc. Avoid these things and all the “preventives” and “cures” sold by physicians, drug stores, beauty shops and the dime stores, and build good health.

XVI. Bathing

The ancient Greeks and Romans bathed quite freely. Indeed the Romans tended, in the end, to greatly overindulge. Wherever the Roman armies conquered, there they built public baths. In Greece, when a man visited a friend, the friend's daughter or wife gave him a bath. In the early Christian era mixed nude bathing was the rule. But the anti-nature dogmas that gripped European peoples during the Middle Ages, remnants of which yet remain with us, secured an early hold upon the church and bathing of any kind was discouraged. It was held that in order to immortalize the spirit, the body must be mortified. All attention to the body detracted from spiritual development. Cleanliness of the body was frowned upon. Filthiness was saintliness.

St. Jerome didn't have a bath for forty years. Queen Isabella, of Spain, who supplied Columbus with the men and means that led to the discovery of America, was given a bath the day she was born, another on her wedding day and a third after death, when she was prepared for burial. A famous English prelate never bathed and never changed his clothes. New robes were put on over the old ones which were allowed to rot and fall off. Wherever he went, worms, bugs, and vermin fell from his robes. There are records of men being tried in court and accused of heresy or infidelity for having bathed.

Buckle's *History of Civilization* says: "Bathing, being pleasant as well as wholesome, was particularly grievous offense; and no man could be allowed to swim on Sunday. It was, in fact, doubtful whether swimming was lawful for a Christian at any time, even on week-days, and it was certain that God had on one occasion shown his disapproval by taking away the life of a boy while he indulged in that carnal practice. As bathing was a heathenish custom, all public baths were to be destroyed" (by order of the Spanish clergy), "and even all baths in private houses." The only remaining examples of the beautiful public baths erected by the Romans throughout the Roman empire, are in Southern Spain, where the Moors held sway.



Beauty at the Bath

In the early part of the last century bathtubs and washstands were unknown in Europe. There were no washing facilities at the court of Catherine de Medici so that the seat of the court was changed ninety times in the course of six years so that the filthy rooms could once more be made habitable. There were three thousand rooms in the palace of the Spanish kings, the *Escorial*, but not a single bath room. There was no bath room in the palace of the sun king at Versailles. A bath tub presented to the king was placed in the park and converted into a fountain because there was no one to use it. Only at irregular intervals did the people of the period cleanse themselves. For the most part they perfumed themselves several times daily instead of bathing, just as we see many people today making frequent and regular use of body deodorants.

Finally mankind aroused itself from the anti-natural torpor and the sleepers began to awake from the fever-dream. Men began to bathe again and a few decades later John Wesley dared to proclaim that “cleanliness is next to Godliness.” There is a vast

difference between this doctrine announced by Wesley and the preceding one, that filthiness is next to Godliness and, which allowed St. Patrick to acquire sainthood merely by becoming the filthiest man in all Ireland.

Graham discovered that the people of his time rarely bathed, rarely opened the windows of their dwellings, rarely (in the case of city dwellers) took enough regular exercise, and in general lived in violation of nature's physiological laws. He advocated regular bathing with as much vigor and determination as he advocated dietary reform. It must be admitted that the invention of the bath tub and modern plumbing, with its conveniences for hot and cold water, had more to do with popularizing bathing than any other thing, but this cannot detract from the value of the work done by Graham and Trall.

It is amusing to recall medical opposition to the use of the bath tub, as amusing as was their violent opposition to railways and rapid travel thereon. Just as they declared rapid travel would be extremely dangerous to the public health and advocated building a fence (wall) ten feet high on each side of the track; so, when the bathtub was first introduced into America, the medical profession denounced it as an "obnoxious toy from England," and passed resolutions and called on the government to prohibit its use because it would bring on "phythisis, rheumatic fever, inflammation of the lungs and a whole category of zymotic diseases." In 1842 the Philadelphia physicians placed before the Common Council of the city a proposal to prohibit by law the use of bathtubs between November 1 and March 15. In Boston, likewise, the medical society secured the passage of an ordinance in 1845, making bathing unlawful "except upon medical prescription."

Daniel Drake, in his classic observations on the Mississippi Valley tells us that the people of this region seldom or never bathed. The same was true of Easterners. Living conditions of the time did not encourage bathing; for, as Harriet Beecher Stowe pointed out, few could be expected to bathe by way of the old oaken bucket that hung in the well. This was especially so during the winter season, when the water had to be heated before an open fire. The invention of the stove added to the comfort of winter bathing, but in cutting off the ample circulation afforded by the open fire place, produced a problem of ventilation.

Aside from the ordeal of bathing, itself, there was also a real fear that winter bathing occasioned colds and other ills, whereas dirt was viewed as a sign of honest toil and plain living, even of good health. Even among those who responded to Graham's pleas for bathing, there were those who continued to entertain doubts about its safety. Thus one "young man of great promise" anxiously inquired: "I have been in the habit during the past winter of taking a warm bath every three weeks. Is this

too often to follow the year around?” This inquiry reveals a state of mind that was by no means peculiar, as shown above.

Benjamin Franklin imported a bath tub from France in 1778. This caused quite a stir among his acquaintances, but did not dent the social ostracism of bathing. Forty years later, during the presidency of James Monroe, a White House scandal was created when he said simply that he was going to take a bath. He went into another room and took a bath in a tub for which he had paid twenty dollars. His political advisors screamed to high heaven about this indecency of his. There was a rumor that later, Andrew Jackson threw out Monroe’s bath tub. At any rate, in 1873 the Commissioner of Public Health Buildings called attention to the unsanitary condition of the President’s home, and mentioned its lack of bathrooms. In 1849 a “public Bathing and Washing Association” was established in New York for the purpose of supplying bathing facilities for the people of New York City. There were few bath tubs at the time.

But the march of time has repeatedly proved that medical wisdom is frequently foolishness, while medicine is prone to condemn new ideas, particularly when these originate outside her own ranks, only to adopt and advocate these same ideas after others in defiance of her opposition, have established their merit. Priests and prelates and even medical men are no longer afraid of a bath.

Local and general cleanliness of the body is less a health measure than an esthetic necessity but its importance to health, particularly of the skin, and to comfort must not be minimized. Bathing is to some extent an artificial procedure and made necessary largely by clothing and civilization. The body is self-cleansing, but clothing tends to prevent this. Also, many civilized occupations soil the body in a manner that its self-cleansing functions cannot remove.

Dr. Trall says: “Were human beings in all other respects to adapt themselves to the laws of their organization, and were they in all their voluntary habits in relation to eating, drinking, clothing, exercise, and temperature, to conform strictly to the laws of hygiene, I do not know that there would be any physiological necessity or utility in bathing at all.” Dr. Page agrees with this, saying: “The less clothing one wears, the less essential a daily bath becomes, and the less time necessary to devote to it. At the same time there is an increased ability to withstand exposure to wet or cold, whether of the bath, an involuntary ducking, or however caused.”

Bathing: Keep your body clean but do not indulge in too frequent and too prolonged bathing. Do not stay in the water and soak for a long time. Man is neither

fish nor amphibian. He is a land mammal. To get clean, simple washing in plain water, at a moderate temperature (luke warm or slightly cool—not hot or cold), is sufficient. Get into the tub or under the shower and quickly wash the body in the same manner that you wash your face. Stay in the water only long enough to cleanse the body. Get out as quickly as possible and dry off with a coarse towel, vigorously rubbing the body with this. Staying in the water too long enervates through stimulation.

Soap: I do not favor the employment of soap, except by those whose work (automobile mechanics, miners, oil workers, etc.) soils their bodies with materials that plain water will not remove. Soap extracts the natural oil from the skin, leaving it dry and cracked and less resistant to “infections.” It is irritating to the skin, and its frequent use results in a hardening that interferes with its functions. Except in the conditions noted, soap is not necessary to cleanliness, but makes cleanliness more difficult. There are thousands of women who never use soap and water on their faces, but who imagine it is impossible to get their bodies clean without a liberal application of soap. A fair trial will convince anyone.

Today even soap manufacturers warn against the use of soap on the hair. “Soap film,” they remind us, leaves hair dull. This is because soap removes all the oil from the hair. Every woman who washes dishes knows how nearly impossible it is to get grease off her dishes and her pots and pans with plain water. She knows that when she uses soap the grease comes off readily. She knows, also, that hot water takes off the grease better than cold water. What happens to the pots and pans happens, also, to the hair and skin. Warm water and soap rob them of their oil, leaving them dry. The hair lacks lustre and is brittle as a result; the skin is dry, parched and cracked.

It is said that “every woman dreads the sight of her hands after a session with the dishes, yet she thinks nothing of subjecting her entire body to the same treatment once a day.” What is overlooked in this connection is that the sight of her hands after a session with the dishes is due to the soap and hot water and the length of time the hands are subjected to this treatment. Soap and hot water extract the natural oils of her skin, which constitute its best protection, thus leaving the skin dry and cracked. Women are warned against using strong, harsh soaps on their face and hands; mothers are warned against using these same soaps on babies. The difference between strong, harsh soaps and mild, weak soaps is only one of degree and both of them rob the skin and hair of their oil. If the harsh soaps are irritating to the skin, the mild soaps are only less so.

Time for Bathing: It is the general custom to bathe in the morning. This seems to have grown out of the thought that we need a stimulant in the morning—an “eye

opener.” The cold bath in particular is employed to wake up one and prepare one for the day’s work. *Hygienic* livers will feel no “need” for stimulation in the morning.

The time to bathe is in the evening after the day’s work is done. One should not go to bed dirty. The dust, dirt and sweat of the day should be removed at the end of the day.

Excessive Bathing: Mankind tends to swing from one extreme to the other. From no bathing at all we easily swing to excessive bathing. The bath, at first a cleansing measure, speedily degenerated into a therapeutic device and today we have baths for all kinds of illegitimate purposes. Bathing is for cleanliness—its chief value is esthetic. It does not scour the insides. It should never be thought of as a therapeutic measure. Bathing does not even unstop the pores of the skin—these do not open on the surface of the skin. The ancient rule of “moderation in all things” should apply to bathing. Too frequent bathing, too prolonged bathing, too cold or too hot water—these and other evils associated with modern bathing are not to be practiced by those who seek true health and a sensible way of life.

We tend also to overdo swimming. The greatest value derived from swimming comes from the time spent out of the water in the sun. Staying in the water for prolonged periods is weakening. Let moderation be your watchword.

Cold Bathing: Years ago the author fell victim to the cold bathing fad. Each morning he had his cold bath, even breaking the ice and going in on more than one occasion. Such a bath is a powerful “stimulant” (excitant) if one does not remain in the water too long, and has sufficient *reactive* power. But by so much as it “stimulates” (excites) at first, it also depresses later. It is an enervating practice with not the shadow of an excuse for existence. I would strongly caution everyone against such foolish practices. They are not to be recommended, even to the robust and healthy, still less are they to be recommended to the weak and sick.

A quick dip in a tub of hot water or in a tub of cold water, or the same icy blast under a shower is no simple matter. The shock is such that much nerve energy is expended in meeting it, so that the regular practice of such bathing is enervating. In people who have bad hearts, such bathing is often enough to prove disastrous. Cases of apoplexy have also been precipitated by such bathing, particularly when taken soon after a meal.

Dr. Oswald says of the cold bathing practice. “The end of the day is the best time for a sponge bath; a sponge and a coarse towel have often cured insomnia when diacodium failed. A bucketful of tepid water will do for ordinary purposes; daily cold shower-baths in winter are as preposterous as hot drinks in the dog-days. Russian baths and ice water owe their repute to the same popular delusion that ascribes

miraculous virtues to nauseating drugs—the mistrust of our natural instincts, culminating in the idea that all natural things must be injurious to man, and that the efficacy of a remedy depends on the degree of its repulsiveness. Ninety-nine boys in a hundred would rather take the bitterest medicine than a cold bath in midwinter. If we leave children and animals to the guidance of their instincts they will become amphibious in the dog-days, and quench their thirst at the coldest spring without fear of injurious consequences; but in winter time even wild beasts avoid immersion with an instinctive dread. A Canadian bear will make a wide circuit or pick his way over the floes, rather than swim a lake in cold weather. Baptist missionaries do not report many revivals before June. Warm springs, on the other hand, attract all birds and beasts that stay with us in winter time; the hot spas of Rockport, Arkansas, are visited nightly by racoons and foxes in spite of all torch-light hunts; and Haxthausen tells us in hard winters the *thermae* of Paetigorsh, in eastern Caucasus, attracts deer and wild hogs, from the distant Rerek Valley. I know the claims of the hydropathic school, and the arguments pro and con, but the main points of the controversy still hinge upon the issue between Nature's testimony and Dr. Preissnitz's — *Physical Education*, p. 100.

Hot Bathing: This practice owes its origin to the same fallacies out of which cold bathing originated. It is an effort to make bathing serve some other purpose (therapeutic) than that of cleansing the body. The short hot bath is a powerful thermal “stimulant”—*excitant*. The prolonged hot bath is a powerful *depressant* and has been known to result in death from heat stroke. The death a couple of years ago of movie actress Maria Montcz in a too hot bath is a case in point.

It is contended in certain quarters that excessively hot baths produce sterility. It is said that the sterility thus produced lasts for forty-eight hours. If this is true, daily hot baths of this nature would be sufficient to maintain the sterility. Although daily hot bathing does not seem to have sterilized the Japanese, it would be interesting to know just how many childless marriages are due to this foolish habit of stewing in hot water.

Casualties in the Bath Tub: It is said that there were 163,835 casualties in bath tubs and under showers in America in 1951, greater by far than the number of American casualties in Korea in nearly two years of fighting. There were 1,085 deaths in bath tubs and under showers in 1951. By far the greater number of these casualties are due to slipping on tile or in the tub, both of these made slippery by soap. Soaped tiles and tubs are treacherous. Some of these casualties have been due to turning on radio and light switches after getting into the water. Casualties in tubs are not arguments against bathing, but against soap, radios in the bath room and other sources of danger.

Mineral Baths: Bathing in mineral water is of no more value than bathing in ordinary water. Mineral waters hold in solution much more soil and rock elements (dirt) than ordinary water and are commonly supposed to possess medicinal value. This is pure superstition. Such waters merely irritate the skin and the nerve endings in the skin. Medicated baths, that is baths in water to which drugs, pine needle extracts, sulphur, herbs, etc., have been added are equally superstitions. They belong to the sick habit and the *doctoring* fetich.

The Friction Bath: This consists of going over the body with the hands, or with a towel or a flesh brush, or with friction mittens, and thoroughly rubbing every part of it. It is an excellent method of cleansing the skin and speedily removes all dead skin. A daily friction bath is taken by many instead of baths in water. Care should be exercised not to rub hard enough to injure and peel the skin. Therapeutic virtues often attributed to this procedure exist only in the imagination.

The Sweat Bath: This consists of subjecting the body to prolonged intense heat in a cabinet, steam room, hot water, or in a hot blanket, etc., to induce profuse sweating. Its purpose is to promote “elimination” through the skin. Sweating is commonly thought of as a process of elimination and it is thought that the more one sweats the more toxins one will eliminate.

Confounding heat regulation with elimination has lead to many ludicrous practices which are not always without their harmful effects. The sweat bath weakens the patient and it is no uncommon thing for weak patients to faint under such treatment. I know of one lady who became temporarily insane after seven sweat baths, and of another case where death occurred during the third such bath. We will do well to remember that the sweat bath was originally a method of exorcism—that is, a means of driving devils out of the body. It has many deaths to its credit. I know of no beneficial effects that flow from its use.

Sweating is a process of heat regulation, not a process of elimination. We sweat more or less as the temperature surrounding the body rises or falls, or as the activities of the body increase or decrease. Nature actually suspends sweating (or nearly so) in fever, and surely if it is an eliminating process it should be increased under the conditions that give rise to fever.

Dr. E. R. Moras says in *Autology*: “Anyone at all familiar with the chemistry of sweat and the chemistry of ‘impurities’ knows that in four gallons of sweat there isn’t two ounces of solid matter—and that these two ounces are nearly three-fourths table salt with a little fatty matter. Think of having to sweat four gallons to get rid of about one-fourth to one ounce of urea—when the mere eating of a few bites less would accomplish the same result, without imposing any work on skin or internal organs.

Don't imagine for an instant that sweating a gallon doesn't perturb internal organs—which must hustle to head off the vacuum produced ... Bathing or washing cleans the skin, but I never knew that it scoured the internal organs, although it does "hold them up' on the water supply."

The physiologist Stiles says: "Contrary to popular belief, the secretions of the skin have the slightest share in the total work of excretion. The great value of the sweat glands is not at all in connection with the removal of waste but in the dissipation of heat."

The physiological purpose of sweating is to keep the body cool. Nothing of importance is eliminated through the skin, either in health or in "disease." Brubaker's text book of Physiology gives the following composition of sweat:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Water | 995.573 |
| Urea | 0.043 |
| Fatty matters | 0.014 |
| Alkaline lactates | 0.317 |
| Alkaline Sudorates | 1.562 |
| Inorganic salts | 2.491 |
| | 1,000.000 |

The following words from Moras' *Autology*, are of interest in this connection: "If you are eating or drinking or behaving so bad that you need Turkish or steam baths, or anything else than the old-fashioned soap and water —why not resort to blood-letting or starved leeches? You'd get a heap more good out of one such treatment than you can ever derive from a legion of 'sweat baths.'

"If you really want a good 'sweating out,' one that won't merely sweat the water out of the skin or fat, but that will stir up and bum and remove impurities from your very flesh and marrow—take a brisk five mile walk. Then lie down and sleep it off, if you want to. Artificial or 'passive' sweating is a delusion."

It should now be clear to the reader that, contrary to popular and erstwhile professional opinion, the skin is not an urinary organ. The skin secretes so little urea that sweat cannot properly be called urine. It is the function of the kidneys to excrete urine. In health they do this well and efficiently. In kidney disease the kidneys may fail in their excretory function and a slightly larger quantity of urea may pass out in sweat. This crystalizes on the skin in the form of white patches of "urea frost." This is seen only in rare cases. It is unfortunate that the skin, even under these circumstances, is unable to excrete sufficient urea to be of advantage to the patient. Patients in such conditions almost invariably die.

The minute quantity of fat in sweat makes sweating look ridiculous as a means of reducing weight. Thousands of men and women all over the country are taking sweat baths in an effort to reduce weight. All they get out of their bodies by this process is water. Then they take a drink and put it all back again. The only means of reducing weight by sweat baths is to continue them until you so impair your health that you lose weight as a consequence of disease. This is a very foolish way to reduce.

The effort to “sweat it out” is not only futile, it is positively damaging. I will not emphasize the occasional death from heat-stroke or from the failure of a seriously impaired heart, while the patient is in the steam room or sweat cabinet. These occurrences are sufficiently rare that, did sweating really do good, we could employ it in spite of such rare dangers. Besides, with proper examination of the patients most of these occurrences could be avoided. I desire primarily to emphasize the enervating effects of the prolonged application of a high temperature to the body for the purpose of inducing excessive sweating. The stimulation produced by the heat results in weakness, lassitude and a need for rest. The physical depression resulting from this form of treatment is often great enough to produce fainting. Heat stroke is more common under such forms of treatment than is generally realized. But we recognize heat stroke only in its extreme stages. We close our eyes to the milder forms of heat stroke that merely leave the patient depressed for a longer or shorter period after the sweating process.

The skin is a radiator. Sweating is primarily a heat regulating process. Rapid evaporation of sweat means rapid cooling of the body, slow evaporation means a slow cooling thereof. A current of air, even though it is warm air, causes the sweating person to feel cool, for the reason that the current of air causes more rapid evaporation than does still air. A fan does not cool the air, although it seems so to us. By keeping the air in motion it causes more rapid evaporation. How hot a room suddenly becomes when the fan is stopped and the air becomes still again! A man who is hot and sweating may cool off quickly by standing before a fan that drives a current of the warm air that surrounds him against his body.

Truck drivers who make long hauls through sparsely inhabited country are making use of this principle today to provide themselves with cool drinking water. They suspend a canvas bag filled with water on the out and under side of the truck. The water slowly seeps through the canvas and evaporates as they drive along through the air at fast speed. The evaporation keeps the water cool. Thus out in the “middle of nowhere,” when they are thirsty they have cool water to drink. This method of providing cool water has long been employed by the army.

We sweat more in hot weather, less in cool or cold weather. We sweat more when

we are physically active, thus producing more heat, less when we are physically inactive, thus producing less heat. Sweat, in evaporating, carries heat away from the body. By increasing sweating when the body is hot the body is cooled and normal temperature maintained despite the heat of summer or the tropics. By decreasing sweating when the body is chilled, heat is conserved and normal temperature is maintained despite cold weather. Both the production of heat in the body and the radiation of heat from the body are under control of the nervous system.

Sweating serves another very important role in life. It assists in maintaining “water balance” in the body. The functions of life are carried on in a fluid medium. Cells can live only in a fluid environment. The same thing is true of one-celled organisms. The blood and lymph together constitute a constantly flowing stream — a river of life — the waters of which bathe the cells of the body in a salt solution and this solution must be kept at the right composition for them to function normally. Too much water or not enough water, gives us a solution that is either too much diluted or too concentrated. Maintaining a proper “water balance” is, therefore, an important function of life. To accomplish this, water must be taken in when needed, and water must be excreted when too much is present.

The work of excreting water falls upon the skin, kidneys, lungs and alimentary tract. The average daily output of urine is about 55 ounces. This contains about two ounces of solid matter and the rest is water. Nearly forty ounces of water are excreted daily through the breath, skin and feces. Sweating is a means of getting rid of water and when it is hot and too much water is taken an increase in sweating eliminates the excess. In winter when not much sweating occurs, more urine is excreted; in summer when much sweating occurs, less urine is excreted. Maintaining the water balance of the body, that is, keeping the amount of water taken in, in food and drink adjusted to the amount excreted by the skin, lungs, kidneys and alimentary tract, is a very delicate process about which much yet remains to be learned. Formerly it was thought to be a very simple process, but within recent years physiologists have realized that their simple mechanical explanations of things are not adequate to explain such phenomena.

Excessive sweating may upset the body’s water balance, causing a state of dehydration that is very uncomfortable and at the same time a great handicap to the functions of life. If dehydration is great enough, death ensues. Without further discussion of the water balance of the body, it should be emphasized that sweating is one of the body’s means of maintaining proper water balance. This may properly be said to be one of the “functions” of sweating. This is the only sense in which the skin may be properly said to be an excretory organ — it excretes water.

XVII. Clothing and Dress

It is necessary to consider clothing and dress as separate articles of wear: for, as Thornstein Veblen pointed out in his *Economic Theory of Womans Dress*, there is a clear distinction between the element of dress and that of clothing, and what serves the purpose of clothing will not always serve the purpose of dress, and *vice versa*. He said that the elements of clothing and of dress are distinct; not only that, but “they verge on incompatibility.” For example, a woman’s hat that covers but a small part of her head and, perhaps, has a hole in the top, may be very dressy, but it serves no possible purpose as clothing. A woman may be well clothed in a blanket, but she is not well dressed in such a piece of cloth.

Dress may well be defined as ornamentation, whereas clothing has a utility purpose. People dress to protect themselves against heat, cold, rain, dust, the grime of their work, and against the physical injuries that may come to them from their contact with objects in their environment or at their work as well as against the bites of insects, and other sources of injury. A nude painter would end the day with his body well daubed with paint, a nude automobile mechanic would end the day smeared with grease from feet to face. The cement worker, if nude, would have his body covered with cement. In cold climates, clothing conserves the warmth of the body and prevents chilling and freezing. None of these functions of clothing are served by dress. Indeed, dress is out of place in many kinds of work.

All of this is not intended to convey the thought that clothing, in order to be useful as such, must be ugly. Clothing may be beautiful and still serve its purpose as a protective covering for the body or some part of it. The element of dress may enter into clothing if it is not permitted to dominate the show. But when dress is the only consideration and the protective function of clothing is ignored, we find ourselves in a field where health and comfort are subordinated to show. Clothes serve man in many important particulars and will continue to be worn as ornaments for the body and for protection against severe weather, and against dirt and injury in many modern industries. It, therefore, behooves us to clothe our bodies sensibly and thus avoid as far as possible the injurious effect of clothing.

As a health impairing agent dress and clothing easily take a place in the front ranks. Man is naturally a nude animal and his body needs and should have the daily contact with the sun and air that it received before man learned to cover himself. The air alone, when playing upon the body, occasions increased metabolism. Let us briefly state the greater evils of clothing:

1. They exclude the sun and air from the body.

2. They bind the excretions of the body upon it and necessitate too frequent bathing. Clothing causes us to literally wallow in our own excretions.

3. They weaken the powers of the skin and cripple its power to quickly adapt itself to weather changes. Trall, Rausse, Oswald, Page, Kuhne, Just, Macfadden and others have proclaimed, for the past hundred years, that exposure of the nude body to the weather, during both winter and summer, does not cause colds. The medical profession has long scoffed at this “extremist” view of things, but will be forced, by experience, to accept it as true.

4. They interfere more or less with freedom of movement and hamper body development.

5. Tight bands, garters, corsets, etc., interfere both with movement and with circulation and, also, cramp the internal organs. Corsets crowd the internal organs out of place and deform the chest, abdomen and hips; brassiers cramp and injure the breasts compressing them and producing a flabbiness in them that is wholly unnatural.

6. Shoes are the cause of about ninety percent of our foot troubles. Ill-fitting stockings contribute to these troubles also. Shoes are more properly designated sweat boxes. High heels, narrow, pointed toes, curved inner lines, etc., are especially injurious. They also interfere with freedom in walking.

7. Clothes tend to create an air of mystery and one of shame about the body. They are potent factors in producing and maintaining prudery.

8. Clothes help to produce and maintain licentiousness and immorality. Instead of being aids to chastity, morality and modesty, they are hindrances.

By shutting out from the body, the air and sunshine; by creating an unclean body; by necessitating too frequent bathing; by restricting the movements of the body; by interfering with circulation; by cramping the organs of the body; by inducing prudery and licentiousness; by weakening the skin and limiting its resistance to environment; and by lessening the adaptive powers of the skin; clothes are distinctly evil and disease producing.

We may present the case for and against clothes in the words of Graham, *Science of Human Life*, p. 637–9: “It is entirely certain that no kind of clothing is strictly natural to man; all the physiological properties, powers, and interests of the human constitution would be better sustained, as a permanent fact, from generation to generation, by entire nudity, than by the use of any kind of clothing. Strictly speaking, therefore, all clothing is, in itself considered, in some measure an evil. In passing into climates much cooler than that to which he is constitutionally adapted, however, man finds it necessary to employ clothing to a greater or less extent, for the purpose of

preserving the proper temperature of the body. In such a situation therefore, clothing becomes a necessary evil; and in so far as man suffers cold without it, it is a comparative good; that is, it prevents a greater evil than it causes. Nevertheless it cannot serve to adapt man so perfectly to such a situation as to make it equally conducive to the highest well being of the human constitution with his natural climate without clothing; it remains true, as a general proposition, that clothing is in some measure detrimental to the physiological interests of the human body.❖Clothing, then is an evil so far as it prevents a free circulation of pure air over the whole surface of the body, or in any manner relaxes and debilitates the skin; and increases its susceptibility to be unhealthily affected by changes of weather and by the action of morbid agents; it is an evil in as far as, by compression or otherwise, it prevents the free action of the chest and lungs, or in any manner or measure restricts respiration; it is an evil in so far as it interferes in any degree with the digestive organs; it is an evil so far as it prevents the full development of any part of the system, or serves, by the substitution of artificial means for natural powers, to relax and debilitate the muscles, or render the tendons, ligaments, cartilages, and bones, less healthy and less powerful, or in any measure to abridge the control of the will over any organ of voluntary motion; it is an evil in as far as it tends to increase the peculiar sensibility of any organ of animal instinct, and to augment the power of that instinct on the intellectual and moral faculties; it is an evil so far as it serves to enfeeble the intellectual faculties, and render the mind sluggish and sensual; and it is an evil so far as it serves to excite an unchaste imagination, and cause the sexes to act towards each other more from the impulse of animal feeling than from the dictate of sound reason.”

Graham quotes one Rev. Grout as saying in 1168: “The Zulus depend on the products of the soil for subsistence, and go entirely naked. Licentiousness is wholly unknown among them. I have been among them for three years, seen them on all occasions, have many a time seen hundreds of males and females huddled together in perfect nakedness, but never once saw the least manifestation of licentious feeling, and they are as remarkable for their intellectual activity and aptitude as for their chastity.”

This is the general testimony of missionaries, explorers and scientists and accords with just what we should, on general principles, expect. Prudery and shame for the body came after and not before man began to wear clothes. Our present prudish regard for the body is the outgrowth of priestly follies. In the early Christian era social nudity, mixed bathing and mixed nude baptism was very general. The church adopted the insane doctrine of total depravity and execrated the body in every way.

At present the outcry against more sensible clothing for women and against nudity comes chiefly from this same source. "To the pure all things are pure," but to the impure mind of the church nothing is pure. Ludwig Borne says: "If any sect should ever take it into their heads to worship the devil in his distinctive qualities, and devote themselves to the promotion of human misery in all its forms, the catechism of such a religion could be found ready-made in the code of several monastic colleges."

Victor Dane says that "in certain (English) convents when the nuns have a bath they keep on their skirts so as not to see their own bodies." He tells the following illuminating story: "Going through an aristocratic part of residential London, I noticed a small group of excited people of various classes.

'Disgusting!'

'She ain't got nothing on!'

"The police ought to know about it!"



“On inquiring as to the cause of the excitement, I was told that a woman was standing in front of a looking glass naked. The good people were profoundly shocked. But the queer part of the matter was that these righteous people, between their remonstrances would take another good look. This shows the state to which the mind can sink,”—to which our minds have sunk. Dr. Oswald mentions a legend of a New England virgin who fainted at the mention of “undressed lumber.”

The present objections to nudity must be overcome. The prudish idea that the human body is vile, vulgar, indecent, obscene, and must be kept hid from public

view, is of course, confined to a few fossil brains that belong to a time that was, but we are face to face with the fact that, despite the present styles, we are still afraid of a nude body. This is because of our machine-made morality. The prevailing customs, the laws of the land, the thoughts of our neighbors—these determine our standards of conduct. We are guilty of great offense against the principles of ethics in our blind worship of custom and convention. Whatever is customary in conduct is right. Whatever is not customary is wrong. And yet customs change continually and differ in different parts of the world. It cannot be consistently claimed that the true principles of morality change with time or with the crossing of boundary lines between nations.

A number of years ago a woman was arrested and fined for appearing in public in a split skirt that showed a few inches of the stocking on one of her lower limbs. (The Bloomerites were frequently stoned for wearing bloomers instead of dresses.) Today the women have cut off their skirts to where they are only abbreviations of grandmother's skirts and show more stockings on each leg than the lady above referred to exposed. And they have reduced the stockings to a mere net, or go without them. Some of the ladies' one-piece bathing suits cover less territory than mother Eve's fig leaf apron. Thus do customs change. And only a few old fossils kick. In China the lady dare not expose her wrist. In Turkey she must keep her face veiled in public. Thus customs decree one thing in one part of the world and another in another part. But the principles of morality and ethics do not change in that way.

Children all complain more of overclothing than of insufficient clothing, even in winter, while five hundred millions of our fellow-men wear scarcely any clothing—not merely in Africa and Southern Asia, but in cold Patagonia and the none too genial latitudes of the Norfolk Islands. The Roman peasant worked nude, even in cold weather, while the ancient Britons and the hardy Scots and Piets were either wholly or almost naked. The very word gymnasium comes from a Greek word meaning naked and we know that at the Greek games both the male and the female contestants and players were nude. The sculptures of Greece and Rome abound in examples of nude hunters, shepherds, artisans, and soldiers, etc. There is nothing indecent, immoral, vulgar or vile about the nude human body. It is simply natural and the natural is right. Many bodies are ugly and misshapen, lack development, etc., but this does not make them indecent or immoral. Indeed, the habit of keeping them smothered in clothes has aided in misshaping and uglifying them. If we went nude we would give more attention to the cultivation of our bodies and less to our clothes.

The author saw a little baby sitting nude in a bowl. Everyone was delighted with the picture it presented. No one thought the child immoral or indecent. No one was

shocked or horrified. Even the mother forgot to ask herself that hypocritical question: “what will my neighbors think?” Then, in my mind’s eye I pictured the baby as it grew up through childhood, puberty, youth, or maidenhood to maturity and wondered at just what stage of its development the body changed into the indecent and obscene. The little girl and boy go barefooted. But mother and daddy dare not. It’s indecent! What a farce!

This whole attitude towards the body comes, not from any actual wrong in exposing the body, but from a filthy mind. It is the habit of mind to project in imagination its own obscenity, vulgarity and impurity, or its own cleanliness and purity into the things around it. The unclean mind can find an evil suggestion in everything that it hears or sees. Saint Paul struck the keynote when he declared: “Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, but even their mind and conscience is defiled.”

Clothing is both artificial and harmful, but so prone are we to regard the conditions under which we are born and reared as natural and to look upon the things that the majority of mankind do as an average, as the best for us to do as a whole, almost everyone regards clothing as both natural and best for man and nudity as vulgar, immoral and indecent. We cannot subscribe to this view. “*Honi soit qui tñaly pense*”—evil be to him who evil thinks.

Prof. Howard C. Warren, head of the physiology department of Princeton, wrote shortly before his death—the *Psychological Review*, March 1933—of his observations made during a visit to the nudist park at Klingberg, Germany: “Where the entire group are unclothed, the sight of the naked body ceases to arouse curiosity. Nudity is accepted as a natural condition.✱One has merely the impression of the body as a whole, and sex differentiae no longer possess special significance.

“Social nudity is not productive of eroticism. There is less sexual excitement, less tendency to flirt, less temptation to ribaldry in a nudist gathering than in a group or pair of fully clothed young people.

“The taboo is present so long as any part of the body is covered, not for protection, but for concealment. This distinguishes genuine nudism from the near-nudism of athletics and the pseudo-nudism of the stage.”

I personally regard both domestic (in the home) nudity and social nudity as important forward steps in both their hygienic and moral bearings. This does not mean that clothes are to be discarded entirely or that they will no longer be useful.

The color of clothes has an important bearing upon health, due to the office of pigment in screening out the sun’s rays. Dark colored clothes are more injurious to health than lighter ones; white offends least of all. If a piece of white cloth is tacked

down over some grass beside a black cloth of the same texture and allowed to remain, and if at the end of a month the two pieces of cloth are removed, the grass under the white cloth will be found to be in perfect condition, while that under the black cloth will be nearly or entirely dead. What the cave, box or covering does for plants, clothes and houses do for man. Our pale (etiolated) white skins are signs of impairment, not of health, and are tolerated only because a long persistence in the error that caused it has degenerated into a custom.

Black transmits heat and absorbs light. White transmits light and reflects heat. Black clothes are hot. White clothes are cool. Experiments made at Columbia University with inexpensive mercerized cotton—some white, some black—showed that enough sunlight penetrates the white to remedy rickets; but through the black it does not. It has long been the practice in certain Nature Cure establishments to permit their women patients to go into the sun parks clad in a thin white gown and take their sun baths thus clad. This is a concession to prudery.

On the whole, wool clothing is worse than linen or cotton. Silk but slightly less so than wool. Water-proofed clothing is worst of all. Rubber soled shoes are worse on the feet than leather. Nature produces a better sole-leather than any shoe-maker, impervious alike to water, sand and thorns. The sole of man's foot will outwear the hooves of a horse. Barefoot Indian mail-carriers trot all day over the lava beds of Amilpas in Nicaragua, where a horse would soon wear his hoofs off to the "quick." Savages race the jungles in their bare feet.

The best head-dress for summer and winter, except in the coldest weather, is our natural hair. Hats and caps for protection against cold, heat and rain, are a comparatively recent invention. The Syrians, Greeks, Romans, Normans, Visigoths, Gauls, Egyptians, Saxons and our own North American Indians went bareheaded in the coldest and stormiest seasons. The Emperor Hadrian traveled bareheaded from the icy Alps to the borders of Mesopotamia. Boys and younger men generally went bareheaded during the reign of Henry VIII. Nature has protected the human skull better than that of any other warm blood animal and there is certainly little need of any artificial covering.

Woman's wear, in many important particulars is much better than it was years ago. Man's apparel is as bad as ever. The pajama fad (for men), started in the summer of 1929, is not ideal by any means. A sports shirt, shorts and Roman sandals would be far better. When every man and woman wears only a string of beads and a smile, except in the worst winter weather, both the health and morals of the race will greatly improve.

Clothing should be light in weight, porous and either white or very light in color

and should fit loosely. Women should abandon high heels, narrow pointed toes, brassiers, corsets, etc. Boots and high-topped shoes should be avoided by men. The sandal and the Indian moccasin are the best forms of foot wear. Going bare-footed is, of course, best and shoes should be discarded when one can do so, for as long as possible. In winter when more clothes are donned, the heavier clothes should be worn outside so that they may be removed upon entering a warm room. Winter clothes in summer temperature should be avoided.

Veblen pointed out that dress is an index to the standing (status) of the wearer. It serves as an index of the wealth of the wearer. In the old patriarchal society, the dress of the women chattels reflected the wealth of their owner. Veblen says: "Still, in spite of the nominal and somewhat celebrated demise of the patriarchal age, there is that about the dress of women which suggests that the wearer is something in the nature of a chattel." Julien Steinberg, associate editor of *The New Leader* said in an article in that publication, that this fact is "easily observable today in our own daily routine. Consider the current clichés of wifely talk. 'You wouldn't want me to go out wearing that.' Or: 'Alright, no new dress. Let your friends see how you treat your wife.' The emphasis is, of course, not always on taste or serviceability. More frequently it is on style (*Chorus*: 'Nobody wears this anymore,' or, on expensiveness: 'I look like a pauper in this.')" He said that the three cardinal principles of women's dress are 1. expensiveness, 2. novelty; and 3. ineptitude. All of this means simply that dress must be un-economical, must be of small use, and must indicate the wearer's uselessness for any gainful activity.

"It is characteristic that the general scorn of utility and functionalism in our time should be most emphasized in the field of women's clothing. Usefulness and conservation have come to signify penuriousness—which in spite of its social roots is misunderstood as an individual failing. Wealth is better indicated by wastefulness and especially by a show of non-concern in the face of this destruction by superfluous expenditures of materials and money.

"Style slaves do not actually seek to waste but to display an ability to waste. This is the reason they bargain over prices. As soon as everybody has the new style, it is no longer desirable. For wearing what everybody else wears is no sign of superior financial status, hence the frantic search for something different. Conspicuous wastage, is the dominant factor, as shown by the expensive formal dresses that are worn by fashionable persons only once; the wearable dresses on all intermediate levels that are discarded, or frantically disguised when finances so decree, by belts, jewelry, scarves, and other gewgaws, so as not to be recognizable as the perfectly good dresses they are. The working girl and the well-heeled girl both junk their wardrobes.

The stigma of not being able to waste stylishly is too difficult a burden to bear.”

In presenting the new styles to women, the emphasis is always on “look,” or what the observer will think the clothing signifies. The sole purpose of style is to signify that women are a totally useless economic phenomenon. Despite the fact that it is frequently not so at all, the purpose of style is to “demonstrate that the life of the wearer is one of characteristic leisure, and by definition, and proudly so, economically useless.”

But fashion is to be viewed as an index of more than financial status. As in lower income brackets, imitativeness and accommodation are attempts to symbolize a show of wealth which is not real, so fashion has become a substitute, a resplendent facade, for personality characteristics, traits and abilities, which are equally absent. These, in general, include the earmarks of individuality, sexual attractiveness, sophistication and “knowingness.” But as a herd personality dominates the individual personality of our age—with variations acceptable only in conformity with basic patterns, so rebellion in this field, which is ostensibly individual, is actually orthodoxly designed.

In keeping with the myth that “there are no classes in America,” our styles attempt to wipe out class distinctions. It has often been said that in America “you cannot tell a pauper from a duchess on the basis of appearance alone.” Thus in fashion, as in other fields there is, springing from the base of imitativeness, a pseudo universality of standards and status, which desperately struggles to present the illusion of the disappearance of class alignments.

It has been said that fads and fashions are in part indices, to what is lacking in modern life. By carefully examining what the fads and fashions pretend to stand for, we get an index of what is lacking. Dress, is, I believe, better examined from the point of view of what it conceals. The statement sometimes made, that ‘there is nothing as uninteresting as a naked woman,’ is the highest tribute that can be paid to fashion; it helpfully reduces the entire matter to a caricature and makes clear the contribution of fashion, and what it achieves in illusion. In these terms, as in so many other areas, the fashion, the disguise, apparently has become the reality.

Why is a nude woman uninteresting? Because commonly, she is a hideous caricature of what a woman should be. She is short and squat; she is skinny and knotty; she is fat and flabby; she is bowlegged, round shouldered and pot-bellied. And here is another reason, a reason the economists never deal with, that women are forever preoccupied with dress. It is a disguise, a camouflage, by which they hide their glaring defects and produce an illusion of something that is not there. By dress they present a “substitute, a resplendent facade,” for physical (physiological and biological) characteristics, qualities and possibilities that are lacking. Thus the great

interest in brassiere ads and rubber “breasts”—*falsies*.

It is not fair to women to say, as some male writers have said, that they are completely lacking in all esthetic sense, this statement being based on their absence from the list of the world’s great poets and artists. It is true that the beautiful music, beautiful statues, beautiful paintings, beautiful buildings, etc., are nearly all creations of men, but there is plenty of evidence that women are not lacking in esthetic sense. I agree, however, that no human being, male or female, with the slightest appreciation of beauty could take up the esthetically atrocious habit of cigarette smoking, or appear in public with her lips or fingernails smeared with paint, or wear the ridiculously ugly garments that women are perfectly willing to wear at any time that fashion decrees.

If we think of the absurd and ugly shoulders frequently shown in women’s fashions where the “shoulders” stick straight out, horizontally, from the neck, and give women the appearance of an unfinished caricature, we have a picture of the folly of fashions. They do not represent the normal shoulder line of either sex. The well-developed and beautiful shoulder tapers gently from the neck and straight shoulders are significant merely as indicating a lack of trapezius development. Concomitantly with the effort to give women wide shoulders, there is usually an effort to give her narrow hips. Shoulder pads accompanied by girdles to compress the hips! Narrow hips belongs to the male, not to the female figure. Wide shoulders belong to the male, not to the female form. Narrow hips on a woman indicate deficiently developed pelvic bones or else absence of the normal flesh covering for the hips. In either case the result is ugly.

George Weaver, a well known authority on physical education, says that it is not just with reference to specific items, like high heels and corsets, that women have not “progressed even one slight inch in the direction of wholesome and normal attitude toward their bodies, their biological meaning and significance in relation to health and integrated function,” but that their general attitude towards dress indicates the truth of this. The truth of this remark, he says is demonstrated by the fact that the female “figure,” “form,” or “silhouette” is based, in woman’s eyes upon changing annual fashions. “There is no interest in what the normal and beautiful proportions of the female body may be; the sole question is: Are waists smaller this year? What is the new silhouette? What is the shape of the 19 ... figure? Hips are back! Hips are out! Shoulders are wide this year. Waists are slim this year ... To a woman her body is nothing but a hunk of flesh with which to play fashion’s game. And women pretend to be horrified at prostitution.”

Women who think of their bodies as mere clothes racks on which to hang

anything that fashion decrees and to be apparently narrowed here and broadened there, as fashion dictates, do not use their intelligence, but blindly follow the vogue set by those commercial enterprises that exploit women in this manner. They not only find themselves, at times, at least, wearing the most freakish styles of dress, but almost at all times injuring their health, not alone by their slavish adherence to fashion, but also by their neglect of real care of themselves.

XVIII. Care of the Hair

To write a chapter on the care of the hair and admit at the outset that I know very little about it may seem strange at first, but this is just what I must do in this instance. It may be urged that I should have taken the trouble to learn something about the subject before writing this chapter; that I should have consulted some of the many “excellent” works on the subject. To this, I reply, I don’t know of anyone else who knows much about the care of the hair. Books are often mere storehouses of ignorance and this is true of books on the care of the hair.

No space will be devoted to the anatomy and physiology of the hair beyond saying that apparently nature has liberally supplied man with all the essential organs and secretions needed to maintain the hair and scalp in a healthy condition. There are arteries, veins, capillaries, lymphatics, nerves, pigment glands and sebaceous glands in abundance.

Hair growth is natural—physiological—and requires no assistance or *stimulation*. In a broad general sense the health of the hair depends upon the blood and this depends very much upon the food we eat. Yet we know little about the effect of food upon the hair. Animal experiments have shown that many types of deficient diets cause a loss of hair; the hair coat loses its smoothness and glossy sheen; it grows too long or too short, etc. Sheep growers have found that sheep that are protected from enemies and are not kept in a constant state of fear, produce longer and better wool.

Typhoid fever and other febrile so-called diseases often cause a loss of hair, due to disturbed nutrition. The hair grows back with the return of health. Often, if the hair was curly before hand, it will be straight, when it regrows. This would seem to point to nutrition as the source of straight or curly hair.

Fear and worry are frequent causes of rapid graying of the hair. A “gray” hair is simply one that is lacking in pigment due to a failure of the pigment gland at its roots. Any cause of malnutrition or of enervation may contribute to the production of gray hair.

While baldness may set in during youth or early manhood and the graying of the hair may begin in the teens, undoubtedly the gradual impairment and hardening of the tissues and lowering of the functions, seen in the progressive “ageing” of the body, increases the tendency to lose the hair and increases the tendency to graying of the hair. In a broad general sense (allowing for exceptions) these two conditions may be considered parts of “old age.”

There can be no doubt that the hair is involved in the general conditions of the body; yet we see many young and vigorous men as well as hardy elderly men lose

their hair, while others of careless and indifferent habits and ailing bodies have and retain an excellent growth of hair. Frail women often have a luxuriant growth of hair. Men who have lived far better than the average all their lives, athletes and strong men lose their hair.

There does not appear to be any justification for the belief that baldness is hereditary. Normal haired grandfathers with baldheaded grandsons and vice versa are common. Baldness is relatively rare in women.

Baldness is often blamed on hats. Hats are said to interfere with the circulation to the scalp. Hats are rarely worn tightly enough to check the blood flow in the scalp. Hats also overheat the head and deny the sun's rays access thereto. However, the habit of going without a hat, now in vogue for a number of years, does not seem to have checked the occurrence of baldness.

Daily massaging of the scalp with gentle pulling of the hair is claimed to "stimulate" hair growth and to aid in restoring lost hair. The few cases in which these measures appear to succeed are a mere drop in the bucket compared to the number of cases in which they obviously fail. Cutting the hair close, even shaving it, does not prevent its loss but may cause it to become coarse. Singing the hair is equally futile. Likewise, irradiation of the scalp with ultra-violet rays and by infra-red rays, and treatment of the scalp with vacuum cups fail in a thousand cases to one in which they appear to succeed.

Hair tonics are all down-right frauds. Hair oils and pomades, various chemicals and hair-restorers are all of no earthly value. Hair foods that are rubbed into the skin do not feed the hair and do not increase hair growth.

Nothing is known that will restore the natural color of the hair, once this is lost. Massage of the thyroid gland is claimed to do this. One might just as well massage his toe nails; it will produce the same results.

Hair does sometimes grow back. It usually does this when nothing is being used in an effort to compel it to do so. If it should grow back while a "hair restorer" is being used, the fortunate individual would swear that the "restorer" did the work. I saw one man's hair grow back after the age of seventy, after he had been bald for more than twenty years. Nothing was done to "restore" his hair and no changes were made in his general mode of living. Such spontaneous re-growths of hair lend an appearance of reality to the claims made for baldness "cures" only if we overlook the obvious fact that these "cures" fail thousands of times for every time they appear to succeed.

Dandruff (seborrhea) is an excessive exfoliation (scaling) of the scalp. There is a constant and normal shedding, with an equally constant renewal of the skin. This

cannot be prevented. Dandruff, therefore, is to be regarded as a sign of something wrong only when it is excessive. This excess is due to malnutrition.

Excessive oiliness and dryness of the hair are also due to nutritive disturbances. These may arise from faulty eating, nervous derangement or impaired digestion. Dull, dry and brittle hair is due to a lack of oil.

Dryness of the hair may also be due to too frequent washing, especially with soap or shampoos. Warm water and wind also tend to make the hair dry. Frequent brushing of the hair distributes the natural oil of the hair more uniformly over it and tends to prevent it from drying out.

Washing the Hair:—I favor washing the hair with plain warm water—with no soap or shampoos. The chief purpose of this washing should be to cleanse the scalp rather than the hair; for the hair itself, may be kept clean and glossy by frequent brushing. The brushing will remove dust, dirt and dandruff from the hair and even from the scalp.

When the hair is washed it should be quickly, and thoroughly dried with towels, air and sun. It should not be allowed to remain wet long. If the hair is allowed to remain wet too long it tends to break easily.

Dyeing and Bleaching:—Bleaches and dyes injure the hair. They rarely injure the hair roots; although hair dyes are sometimes absorbed through the scalp and produce serious troubles. Hair dyes may injure the skin and the poison may reach and injure other parts of the body, including the kidneys. Silver nitrate, pyrogalllic acid, paraphenylenediamin and henna are the most common poisons used in these dyes.

Curling and Waving:—It cannot be denied that the appearance of the young lady with straight hair is much improved when her hair is curled or waved. This is especially so with those who wear bobbed hair so that it cannot be “done up” in various ways. The curling and waving processes damage the hair—make it dry and brittle and take away the natural lustre of the hair. But they probably do no damage to the actual living portions of the hair in the scalp. I know of no serious objection to these practices.

Clement of Alexandria declared that, “Head dresses and varieties of head dresses, and elaborate braidings, and infinite modes of dressing the hair, and costly mirrors in which they arrange their costumes, are characteristic of women who have lost all shame.” There still exist religious sects and religious individuals who think as Clement and the early Christians thought about the hair and other parts of the body. Why shall not women braid their hair and wear jewelry? Because to do so is to place a snare at the feet of feeble man. Stuff and nonsense! It is time to bum such mental rubbish, such backwash from the sewer of the ages.

XIX. Care of the Eyes

The human eye is a little spherical sac situated in a cavity under the brow. Histologically it is merely a beautifully specialized skin, composed of cartilaginous, epithelial, nervous and muscular tissue. By means of the optic nerve, it is brought in connection with intricate nerve ramifications and cell centers in the brain.

The eye is curiously and wonderfully constructed to fulfill its visual function. The eyeball is composed of very strong, tough, opaque, fibrous tissue called the sclerotic, which is able to withstand a great deal of pressure and violence. In the front portion of the eyeball is a little opening called the pupil. The front of the pupil is protected by the aqueous humor and the firm, transparent cornea made up of fibrous tissue and epithelium. The pupil forms the window through which the light enters.

A little way back of the cornea is a little transparent, elastic biconvex lens called the crystalline lens. This lens rests perpendicularly in a tightly-fitting, transparent membraneous bag. Attached to the edge of the bag and radiating from it, there is a circlet of little muscles concentric with the lens, known as the ciliary muscles. These by contracting pull upon and tighten the bag and reduce the curvature of the elastic lens, or by relaxing, reduce the former convexity. We have here a lens of changeable curvature which art has not succeeded in imitating.

Besides the aqueous humor between the lens and cornea, there is a jelly-like substance called vitreous humor filling the interior of the eyeball sac.

Around the margin of the pupil there is a little annular curtain, the pigmented iris, which by means of muscular tissue, is able to contract or relax, thus increasing or diminishing the opening through which light passes to the lens. This acts much as does the diaphragm in the camera. The size of the pupil may be reduced to one-thirty-second of an inch in diameter in bright sun or increased to three-eighths of an inch in diameter in the dark.

By means of six little muscles attached to its outer coat and to the bony socket in which it rests, the eye can be freely moved in all directions. The muscles of the eyes are capable of shortening and lengthening the eyeballs, and in every adjustment of sight, these changes occur in the eyes. Dr. Bates thinks this is practically the whole of the work of adjustment to objects far and near. The “regular” schools of oculists and optometrists refuse to recognize the power of the eyes to instantly change their shapes. The eye is kept moist and clean by a fluid (tears) secreted by the lacrymal glands and drained away from the eye into the nose by the lacrymal duct. The eye is guarded by the eye lids.

The aqueous and vitreous humors both serve to reflect and focus light, but most of

the refraction is done by the crystalline lens, which is able to alter its focusing point by altering its curvatures. In a normal eye, when the ciliary muscles are relaxed the eye is focused for distant objects. To see objects close at hand the muscles must be tightened to increase the curve of the lens and shorten its focal distance. The alteration of focal length by the ciliary muscles is a “reflex” action and is called accommodation. The nerves and muscles of accommodation are those nerves and muscles that adjust the vision to small or large objects, objects close by or at a distance, to read this print one instant and see a man far down the street the next, and that enables us to see in a strong light or in a dim light. Good vision depends upon the power of accommodation. So long as this is unimpaired we see well; when it is impaired, from whatever cause and in whatever way, our sight is defective. Accommodation is a complex process and may be impaired in a variety of ways.

All of this marvelous mechanism serves to collect the light and focus it on an intricate nervous layer in the back of the eye-ball called the retina, which is the terminal of the optic nerve which in turn carries the “vision” to the visual center in the brain. The nervous and cerebral part of the visual apparatus serves to transform light into sight.

Contrary to popular teaching, good eye sight does not depend on the shape of the eyeball, anymore than a good picture depends on the shape or size of the camera. The camera has mechanisms with which to regulate the influx of light, the nearness of the plate to the lens, and to adjust the camera to the nearness or remoteness of the object from the camera. The camera may be fitted with an assortment of various lenses.

The eye has a pupil and an iris muscle to regulate the influx of light. It possesses but one lens, but this lens is not made of rigid glass. It is an elastic, resilient, jelly-like, flesh lens, capable of changing its front and back surfaces more quickly than lightning and without waiting for conscious orders from the brain to do so. What’s more, the eyeball itself is capable of changing its own shape in adjusting itself to seeing. All of the adjustments possible in a camera, and many more, take place in the eye. There is no standard size and shape for eyeballs, anymore than there is a standard size and shape for cameras. The eyes are capable of many more and of much more delicate adjustments than the finest of cameras.

No one has yet been able to solve the mystery of seeing. We do not know how the eye takes pictures and “develops” and “prints” them for the brain. We do not know how the nerves convey these pictures to the brain; nor do we know how the brain sees them and “mounts” them in its memory album. We only know that seeing is an instinctive process and that by means of the delicate operations of the structures and substances in the eyes, under the influence of light, these pictures of things are

made, that they are passed on by the nerves to the brain, where we “see” them. We may be sure that were the mechanism and physiology of sight fully known, the notion that the shape of the eye determines its functional efficiency would be seen to be ridiculous.

We do not claim that some eyes are not longer or shorter than others. Indeed no eye is symmetrically perfect. No two people have eyes shaped exactly alike. Eyes differ in shapes, just as noses do. But the shape of the eye does not determine its functional efficiency, any more than does the shape of the nose determine its efficiency. Normal vision depends on the changes that occur in the curvature and elasticity of the crystalline lens. If this lens is clear and elastic; if the nerves, muscles and ligaments of the eyes are capable of normal activity, sight is good and will remain so, as long as these conditions are maintained. If these structures are not normally healthy, if their functions are impaired, glasses which are commonly resorted to, will not make them Better. On the contrary, they make them worse.

The living action of an elastic, ever-changing lens, the condition of which varies with the quantity and quality of the blood that feeds it, and the elasticity and changeableness of which varies with the tone and activity of the muscles, nerves and brain, and varies from one day to another, from one hour to another, even from one instant to another, is as different from the fixed and unchangeable action of an inflexible, dead, inactive glass lens, as it is possible for two actions to differ from each other.

“The crystalline lens of the eyeball,” says Dr. Moras, “is of nature’s own make—whereas the lens of eyeglasses is of man’s make. The crystalline lens is natural and ideal, whereas the glass one is artificial and experimental. The ‘live’ one is elastic and instantaneously changeable, whereas the dead one is rigid and eternally unchangeable.”

That a glass lens is as different from a flesh and blood lens as a glass eye differs from a living eye, all will admit. That the living eye is constantly breaking down and being built up, like every other part of the body, is common knowledge. The living crystalline lens of the eye, its humors, nerves and muscles are kept clear and elastic in health, or made hazy and rigid in disease.

Defective vision must arise out of troubles in the mechanism of the eyes. There is something wrong with the nerves, or muscular coordination is impaired, or the lens has lost its clearness and elasticity, or the aqueous humor has thickened or thinned, etc. “Eye-strain” is largely a bugbear and is rarely the cause of defective sight. It is more often an effect rather than a cause. The human eye has a very efficient safety factor which is almost always capable of preventing real strain. It is almost

impossible to strain real healthy eyes. Yet a standard author tells us: "It is for the relief of eye strain chiefly that we order glasses."

Dr. Geo. S. Dery, of New York, says that eye strain is usually a result of "ocular neurosis." In most cases there is no strain but only a mental condition brought on by suggestion. Sensitive and nervous people, who have allowed their health to be impaired through neglect, easily become victims of "ocular neurosis." The suggestion of "eye strain" may be first given to the victim by an oculist, who wants to straddle his nose with a pair of eye-crutches; or it may be given to him by some ignorant physician, who finds it too much trouble to discover the real causes of his patient's troubles and suggests that they are due to eye strain. These unfortunate victims of suggestion renounce their work, where they may do so, and become victims of brooding and melancholia.

You cannot use your eyes too much, for they will not let you. But you can abuse them in many ways. If you do so, they tell you so, gently, as first, perhaps, and you disregard their warnings. Then they begin to scream. But they are not screaming for glasses. They are calling as loudly as they can and in the only language they possess, for a cessation of abuse.

Petting and pampering the eyes is distinctly bad for them. Reading in a dim light, commonly avoided, does not injure the eyes. On the contrary, those with weak eyes will find this form of eye exercise beneficial. The author can easily read a newspaper in the moonlight. Similarly, reading fine print is an excellent exercise for those whose sight is impaired. Practice reading close up and at a distance. Train your eyes to see as you want them to see.

Most of the old rules for caring for the eyes either have no value at all or are distinctly bad for the eyes. For instance, there never was any more reason why the light on the book you read should come over the left shoulder than that it should come over the right shoulder. It does not injure them to read while riding on a car or train. The movies do not injure nor strain the eyes.

The eyes are parts of the body and partake in varying degrees of the strength or weakness of the body as a whole. They are fed by the same blood and lymph stream, innervated by the same nervous system and have their waste matter eliminated by the same excretory organs as the other organs of the body. As the general health improves or is impaired the efficiency of the eyes rises and falls.

Weakness of the eyes, smarting and twitching of the eyelids, burning sensations of the lids or eyes, failing sight, watering, etc., accompany poor health. Bright's disease and diabetes both seriously impair vision and may result in blindness. Congestion of the eyes is due to toxemia, alcoholism or external injury. Catarrhal

conditions of the eyes result from the same causes that produce these conditions in other parts of the body. Anything and everything that affects the general health, either to improve or to impair it, may also improve or impair vision. The first requisite of good vision is, therefore, good general health. The eyes cannot be cared for independently of the body, as though they have no vital connection. Any attempt to do so will fail.

Food exercises a direct and marked influence upon vision. Malnutrition has an especially deleterious influence upon the eyes. Muscular and nervous atrophy are seen in practically all severe states of malnutrition and the muscles and nerves and other tissues of the eyes are involved in the wasting and deterioration of the body. Every instance of malnutrition involves some disturbance of the eyes. Retinitis (inflammation of the retina) and photophobia (increased sensitiveness to light) are seen in pellagra, which is a nutritional disorder. Bloch has reported several cases of diseases of the eyes in babies artificially fed on separated milk. Beginning with dryness (xerosis) of the conjunctiva, the condition progressed to severe affections, with involvement of the cornea and in several of the babies, resulted in complete blindness. He succeeded, with a diet of whole milk and cod-liver oil, in restoring the general health of some of these children and in restoring the eyes to normal.

Calves that are nursed by cows fed on certain types of deficient diets go blind, have fits and die. Blindness and purulent inflammation of the eyes are aftermaths of famine and the poorly nourished Jews of Poland have, perhaps, more blind and deaf among them than any other race. They are misshapen and deformed, of stunted growth and frail physiques. Transferred to better environments and given better food, in one and two generations these conditions end.

Xerophthalmia, a dry, thickened condition of the conjunctiva, develops in certain states of dietary deficiency. Laboratory men attribute this to a lack of vitamin A. It is seen in calcium deficiency and is recovered from more rapidly if the calcium in the diet is increased along with the vitamin A.

Xerophthalmia passes rapidly into keratomalacia, a softening of the cornea, and may even culminate in blindness. Hemorrhagic and even purulent discharges from the eyes are seen in experimental animals. Numerous experimenters have been able to produce these conditions in animals with deficient diets. McCollum and Simmonds say that while vitamin A can prevent or remedy these conditions, it can do so only when there is ample sodium and potassium in the diet. Xerophthalmia, which occurs quite often in Denmark, is regarded as the chief cause of blindness in Danish children.

McCollum's investigations have led to the conclusion that the animal organism

has stored up in its fat and glandular organs, a sufficient reserve of “fat soluble A,” the absence of which is said to cause xerophthalmia and keratomalacia, to supply its immediate needs, when this vitamin is lacking in the diet. As soon as the reserve supply is exhausted the young animals fed on a deficient diet cease to grow. Even long after a famine has passed, children suffer with purulent inflammation of the eyes and physicians who went into the famine district after the famine in the Central Provinces of Russia in 1898, reported that an unusually large number of people suffered with severe diseases of the eyes.

Sunlight: The sun’s rays are especially valuable for the eyes. Light, especially sunlight, is essential to the development of sight. Animals born and reared in the dark are blind. Their eyes atrophy and in some cases completely disappear. Were one to go into a dark room, where no light can penetrate, and remain there for a few weeks, he would find, upon coming out into the light, that his eyes have become so weak and sensitive to light that the bright light of mid-day causes intense pain. Dark glasses and dark shades for the eyes are distinctly bad for this same reason; they only make matters worse.

Gazing directly into the sun is especially valuable in strengthening weak eyes and in improving vision. The early morning or late afternoon or evening sun is best for this. Gaze at the sun for only a few seconds at the outset and only gradually increase the length of the exposure as the eyes grow stronger. Later the eyes may be exposed to the more intense sun light of mid-day.

If the eyes are very sensitive to light one should sit in the sun and permit its rays to fall upon the closed eyelids a few minutes at a time each day. After practicing this a few days the eyes may be cautiously opened and blinked at the sun. In the course of a few days to a few weeks the sensitiveness to light will be overcome and the outdoors may be enjoyed without discomfort.

Cleanliness: The eyes are self-cleansing and do not require to be bathed with eye-washes, lotions, antiseptic solutions, etc. Nothing but plain water should be employed in washing the lids. Boric acid, salt solutions, dilute lemon juice, etc., commonly employed are injurious. The “eye bath” is an unnecessary piece of ceremonial belonging to the “doctoring” habit.

Rest: The eyes require rest after use, just as do all other organs of the body. They rest best in darkness with the lids closed, as in sleep. A method of securing complete relaxation and rest for the eyes, known as palming, is as follows: cup the hands and place them over the eyes (see fig. 1), in such a way as to exclude all light without causing any pressure on the eye-balls. In this condition try to see a perfect black. So long as colors (blue, purple, yellow, etc.) are seen complete relaxation has not been

secured. Keep the hands over the eyes for several minutes to give them rest. The reader is warned that there is no magic in “palming” and its sole object is to secure relaxation of the eyes.



Fig. 1

Exercise. Exercise of the eye muscles causes an increased flow of blood through the eyes and results in improvement of their various tissues. It improves the tone of the eye muscles and improves or restores their coordination. The exercises illustrated and described on the next page are especially valuable in restoring normal sight and enabling the user to discard glasses.

These exercises should be practiced daily and persistently until the desired results are obtained. In many cases a week will be enough to get rid of glasses. In other cases several weeks will be required. If at first the exercises make you dizzy or cause discomfort, keep them up. Do not be discouraged if progress is slow. 1.—Look up as far as possible and then make an effort to carry the eyes still further upward. Then look downward as far as possible. (See Figs. 2 and 3). Repeat several times. 2.—Look obliquely upward and to the right; then obliquely downward and to the left. (See Figs. 4 and 5). Reverse this motion and look obliquely upward and to the left and, then, obliquely downward and to the right. Repeat several times. 3.—Look as far to the right and, then, as far to the left as possible. (See Fig. 6). Repeat several times. 4.—Look into the bridge of the nose. (See Fig. 7); relax and repeat. 5.—Roll the eyes around in a circle—looking up, then right, then down, then left, then up again. Reverse the movement and roll the eyes in the opposite direction. Repeat several times. 6.—Practice focusing the eyes on the point of a pen or pencil held at arm's

length from the eyes. After focusing on the point for a few seconds, look at some small object far down the street or across the fields, for a few seconds and then back to the pencil and repeat several times. 7.—Take a pencil and hold it near the eyes, 12 to 14 inches away, and shift it about to various positions—sides, above, below, in front—in relation to the eye and focus the eyes on it while in motion. This aids in training the eyes for co-ordinate movement and accomodation at unusually near points.

Discarding Glasses: Glasses create a seeming need for themselves. The longer they are worn the greater seems to be the need for them. The best way to get rid of them is to step on them and break them; lose them or in some other way, get rid of them at once. Efforts to “taper off” are often unsatisfactory.

Errors of Refraction: A few words about the most common defects of vision are in order at this place. So-called diseases of the eyes will be treated in Vol. VII.

Emmetropia: Is an “ideal eye.” Oculists will not have it that there is any such thing as ideal sight, so they say that an ideal eye may not see ideally. In other words, in an eye of ideal shape, function may be impaired, accomodation may be weakened. Anyway, to admit that you have ideal sight, is to spoil his chances of selling you a pair of high priced glasses. The simple fact is that all eyes are ideal eyes.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

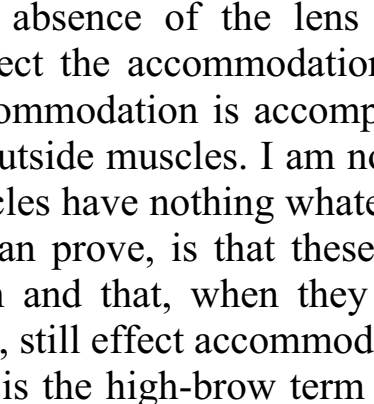
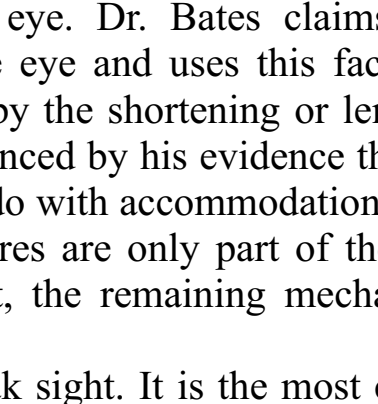


Fig. 7



Aphakia is absence of the lens of the eye. Dr. Bates claims this does not appreciably affect the accommodation of the eye and uses this fact to support his theory that accommodation is accomplished by the shortening or lengthening of the eyeball by its outside muscles. I am not convinced by his evidence that “the lens and the ciliary muscles have nothing whatever to do with accommodation.” The most that this evidence can prove, is that these structures are only part of the mechanism of accommodation and that, when they are out, the remaining mechanism can, with increased effort, still effect accommodation.

Asthenopia: is the high-brow term for weak sight. It is the most common trouble for which people seek the aid of glasses. Its symptoms are inability to use the eyes for considerable length of time without pain, smarting, watering, headache, neuralgia, insomnia, etc. It is due to a weakening of the muscles and nerves of accommodation. Glasses are always prescribed for this condition and they always do a great deal of harm, not alone because they invariably weaken the accommodation of the eyes, but also, because they give a false sense of strength and comfort and cause us to neglect the original causes of the weakness of the eyes. The author of *Defective Sight* says: “I have never been able to materially alleviate with glasses asthenopia found in women suffering from serious uterine disease. Neither have I seen any benefit, other than very temporary, in the correction of trifling errors of refraction in neurotic and hysterical subjects.”

Astigmatism is a focusing defect in all departures from normal vision. It is an inability to focus at the same time equidistant horizontal and vertical lines and is supposed to be due to a greater curvature of the lens in one meridian than another. Physicians and optometrists tell us that “even low degrees of astigmatism should be corrected in the majority of instances, and glasses in the form of spectacles should be worn constantly.” But who wants to wear glasses “constantly.”

Strabismus is the high-brow term for cross-eyes. It is due to contraction, shortening and infiltration of the inner eye muscles. The contraction is usually due to nervous tension. Glasses are prescribed for this condition also and, although we are told of cures by this means, they must be very rare. Nature does often remedy the trouble, while the growing child is wearing glasses, but the glasses have nothing to do with this. Eye gymnastics will frequently remedy the condition.

Myopia is near sight, or to the eye specialist, long eye-balls. Myopia is really a failure of accommodation. This condition may be the result of disease or of training. We forget or do not know that we can train our eyes, just as we can train our fingers. But if we have trained our eyes to see at close range only, we can again train them to see at a distance.

Myopia (near-sightedness) is often a result of malnutrition and toxemia. Careful studies of the statistics of myopia in England show that this condition rises or falls, as living conditions improve or grow worse. When the general level is high, myopia is low; when the general health is low and there is much dietary deficiency, due to “hard times,” myopia increases.

Myopia does not result from fasting. One may actually see farther when fasting than when on the conventional diet. I have seen more than one myopic individual discard his glasses after a few days of fasting and not use them thereafter.

Hypermetropic means far sight, or a short eye-ball. Oculists tell us that “most of mankind are born hypermetropic, but the hypermetropia is either grown out of, or it is not of a degree requiring correction.” Although this quotation comes from one of the “greatest scientific writers” on the subject, many children are wearing glasses for the correction of a normal condition. Far sight is said to manifest by an inability to see at close range or to read fine print, and by a tired feeling in the eyes. And these symptoms are simply symptoms of weakened accommodation.

Presbyopia is a term for “old sight.” Old sight is supposed to begin at about the age of forty-two. The eyes are supposed inevitably to grow weaker after forty. An old man whose tongue seems to have improved with age, excuses his glasses on the grounds of age. His fingers are as efficient as ever on the violin or piano, but his eyes are “old.” Its symptoms, chief of which are inability to see clearly at a convenient distance, or to see small objects or to see in a poor light, are due to a failure in the accommodation or adjusting power of the eye, to a lack of elasticity in the crystalline lens—the so-called insufficient refractive power. This all simply means that old sight (presbyopia) is due to exactly the same things as is weak sight (asthenopia). Some oculists say that old sight is due to flattening of the cornea, and some of them tell us that this is due to rubbing the eyes. We don’t believe it and they can’t prove it.

As in weak sight, so in old sight—whether in children, or in the aged—glasses have to be changed frequently and stronger lenses employed. But people do not take the hint. We see a man or woman past forty begin to strain his sight with glasses. At first he wears them only in the evening, or he wears them only to read fine print, but later he wears them all of the time. Sometimes he uses one pair to read with and another for general seeing, or one pair during the day and another pair in the evening.

Much faulty sight is due to the failure of the eyes to properly focus on objects. One eye looks directly at the object and the other looks slightly inward or slightly outward, or slightly upward or downward. The eyes are simply not both looking at the same object. Failure to see well is inevitable. This lack of focus is due to incoordination of the muscles that turn the eyes from side to side, or up and down. This incoordination may be due to weakness, nervous tension, strain, or even to suggestion. When its causes are removed and eye gymnastics employed, muscular coordination is soon reestablished and the eyes again pull together. In cases of strain, a few minutes of complete relaxation, as secured by the Bates method of palming, will overcome the trouble.

A simple test will quickly reveal the fact that the two eyes are not looking at the same object at the same time. A small object, such as the point of a pencil, may be held about three feet from the eyes and slowly moved in until it rests on the bridge of the nose. The subject is directed to look directly at the point of the pencil. As the pencil moves in closer to the nose, one or the other eye will be seen to move away from the focal point. At a given distance from the nose (in some cases close up, in others far away) the eyes will both look at the object, but when it is moved inside or outside of this point one eye will look away from it. Much so-called far-sight and near-sight is due to this incoordination.

Atrophy is a withering and wasting away of tissues—nerves, muscles, humors, etc., are going, going, gone. One of the most frequent causes of atrophy is glasses. Toxic states, drugs, and malnutrition are common causes.

Most of the above defects are remediable. I have seen numerous cases of visual defects completely and permanently remedied by fasting. The eye exercises described on another page are especially valuable in overcoming most of these conditions. Everything that improves the general health will add to the efficiency of sight.

Not all cases can be remedied. Not every one will be able to discard glasses and see as well or better without them as with them, but most users will be able to do so. No one is justified in “failing” until they have given these methods a fair trial.

Glasses: Few people who wear glasses have any real need for them. Most of these people may discard their eye-crutches and see better without them. Glasses are

capable of doing much harm to the eyes, as I shall show below.

It was figured out in a purely mechanical way, using glass lenses for experimental purposes, that far-sightedness is due to the eye balls being too short and that near sightedness is due to the eye balls being too long and dim or blurred sight is due to a queer shape of the eye ball. The opticians and optometrists have some colored pictures showing the various parts of the eyes and some funny little diagrams showing how the light rays enter the eyes and how they are focused on the retina, or how, in impaired vision, these rays are not properly focused. They show these to you and explain the mechanics of sight, as the lens manufacturers taught it to them.

But they completely overlook the fact that their ink and paint lines are fixed, immovable. The glass lenses with which all this physics of vision was worked out, were just as inflexible and inadjustable. When the oculist shows you his pictures and diagrams and showers you with his sales-talk, he forgets the physiology of sight. He forgets that the eyes are made of flesh and blood, that they are capable of fine delicate adjustments that cannot be pictured with lines and colors.

While you were watching the pictures and diagrams the crystalline lenses of your eyes were changing their thickness and altering the convexity of their surfaces; the eye muscles were changing the positions and shapes of the eyes, the pupils were narrowing or widening, the nerves were functioning, blood was circulating and many other happenings were going on in your eyes to make the delicate adjustments necessary to good vision.

Dr. E. R. Moras aptly referred to these pictures and diagrams as “kindergarten things.” He pointed out that they do not represent “what actually takes place in the hidden recesses and depths of the brain, of the cells, of the fluids, of the humors of the lens, nerves, muscles, retina, of the eyeball which receives the messages of the sun, and the stars, and the written languages, and the flowers, and the features of things and people in the world around you and transmits and translates them to the world within you.”

A young woman has excellent eyesight. She goes through school and college and her eyes never trouble her. She secures a position and goes to work in an office. She works hard and neglects her general health. Her mother dies and grief finishes the work of breaking her down. She discovers that she can no longer see well. She must bring the print up close to her eyes, or it is blurred and indistinct. Like thousands of others, she goes to an eye specialist, who examines her eyes and tells her that her eyeballs are too long and this causes her to be near-sighted. For twenty five years her vision was good, now it is poor and it is discovered that her eyeballs are too long. This gives her the impression that her eyeballs have been stretching out longer

without her knowing it. She accepts the theory and the glasses and goes away with the dread thought that now she must wear glasses all of her life. She does not understand the relation of her impaired health to her defective vision. She does not realize that the eyes are simply unhealthy also. She does know that the causes of impaired sight may be corrected and removed and that her sight will be as good as ever, providing she will discard the glasses. I never waste time trying to aid a patient in recovering visual health, unless he or she will discard glasses.

If your vision has been good, if the eyes have been making, “developing,” “printing” and transmitting good pictures to your brain for twenty-five or more years, they will do so again, if you give them opportunity. They did not suddenly alter their shapes on your eighteenth or twenty-fifth birthday. If you are wearing glasses the chances are a hundred to one that this is because somebody bluffed you into wearing them.

The oculist puts knock-out drops, or atropine, into your eyes to paralyze the nerves and muscles of sight, or of accommodation, in order that he may tell you whether you are near or far sighted. But you tell him this when you go into his office. You explain that you cannot see as well as you once did, that your eyes are weak, painful, watery, dim, troublesome, etc. You explain how you cannot see objects at close range or far off, that objects too close up or too far away appear to have spots, or specks or streaks around them. You explain to the doctor or optician or optometrist the nature of your troubles, he goes through the pretense of examining your eyes, by first putting its delicate mechanism of adjustment out of commission (the optometrist does not do this), translates what you told him into Greek, saddles the bridge of your nose with a pair of eye-crutches and empties the contents of your purse into his.

Bates has pointed out that you cannot see through glasses without producing the kind and degree of refractive error the glasses are intended to correct. “But,” he says, “refractive errors, in the eye which is left to itself, are never constant. If one secures good vision by the aid of concave, or convex, or astigmatic lenses, therefore, it means that one is maintaining constantly a degree of refractive error which otherwise would not be maintained constantly.” How can this do otherwise than make the condition worse.

Glasses are habit forming. One who can see well without glasses, may wear them a while and he soon finds that he cannot see well without them. He has trained his eyes to see through and by the aid of the lenses and they do not see well in their absence.

Seeing better through glasses does not indicate a need for them nor even that they will be helpful or beneficial. This does not indicate that we should wear them, or that

they will not prove positively harmful. Who would think of wearing telescopes or microscopes on the eyes because he can see better with them? It is well known that the prolonged use of either of these instruments is injurious to vision.

I do not assert that there is not some kind of an excuse for wearing glasses in hundreds of cases where these are worn. But I do claim that this excuse or reason may be removed. The causes for eye weaknesses may be corrected. Glasses do not remove these causes and do not benefit the sight. You who are wearing glasses and who are under the impression that you must continue wearing them, securing stronger lenses from time to time, until your eyes become so dull and lifeless, that you simply cannot see enough to find your glasses when you want to see, should throw away this false notion along with the glasses.

Opticians, oculists, optometrists and ophthalmologists count on fitting people with stronger and stronger lenses on an average of once every two years. Glasses weaken the accommodation of the eyes and the longer they are worn and the stronger the lens used, the weaker the accommodation becomes. This is certainly not a bright prospect for users of glasses to look forward to.

There will always be stronger and strongest lenses for sale. A stronger lense than any ever worn in eye-glasses may be made. But what is the use if there is not vitality enough in the eyes and sensitiveness in the nerves to see. When your eyes become dead to light and your retina and visual center in the brain become insensitive to pictures, these do not care much how strong the lens you employ, nor how large or how magnified the print or the object is. When their own crystalline lens and their humors and muscles and nerves are on the scrap-heap and no longer able to function, there is no more sight for you. When your retina has become yellow and shriveled, due to the persistent focusing of the light rays (by your glasses) into your eyes, you may kiss your sight good-bye.

The author of *Defective Sight* says, "It is not safe to prescribe concave glasses to all young persons simply because they see better with them." He further says: "The most expert observers with the ophthalmoscope cannot determine with exactness between a low degree of Myopia (shortsightedness) and one of Hypermetropia (farsightedness.)" They guess at the condition of the eyes, and fit the glasses on the basis of their guess.

Glasses, to borrow a term from Dr. Moras, are "picksights." They rob you of your sight. The robbing process is slow, gradual, insidious, and so smoothly and expertly done in most cases, that one seldom feels the from day to day loss and, since people seldom take an inventory of the "stock" of sight they have on hand, they do not notice the drain and do not miss the sight until it is nearly run out. They may be well aware

that instead of feeling and seeing and looking as bright and well and clear today as they did five, ten or twenty years ago, their eyes are less comfortable and look less bright and alive and see far less clearly.

Color is never as intense when viewed through a lens, or through plain glass, as when viewed with the naked eye. Distinct perception of form depends upon perception of color and, therefore, both color and form are seen less distinctly with glasses. Women often remove their glasses when shopping, to enable them to distinguish color; for glasses, worn even for minor defects of vision, make one more or less color-blind.

There comes a noticeable, but indescribable change in the mental make-up of the person who wears glasses. The glasses, by robbing him of the natural pictures of things and persons, of colors, shades, sizes, shapes, proportions, and by feeding his mind upon inaccurate and distorted reproductions of things and by falsifying all of his visual experiences, alters his mental make-up. As our eyes see things so our mind sees them. Looking at the world through spectacles gives us a spectacular view of things, with a correspondingly false impression.

Almost everyone “needs” glasses, if the oculists are to have their way—not always because there is something really wrong with the eyes, but because “eye strain” is causing trouble elsewhere in the body. As one authority says: “The improvement of defective vision is, in this country at least, less frequently our object in ordering glasses, than the relief of certain symptoms that have no particular relation to the eyesight.” Again, he says: “As a matter of experience, we know that most people under forty years of age who wear glasses do so not to enable them to see objects about them more clearly, but to use their eyes without discomfort of some kind.”

In other words, oculists and optometrists, are treating disease by saddling the nose with an eye crutch, just as the dentist pulls your tooth for rheumatism. I may add that, just as the pulling of teeth apparently helps one case of rheumatism out of five thousand cases, so the glasses appear to aid in very rare instances. A few years ago one of the most eminent oculists, in a book entitled *Defective Eyesight*, wrote: “The extravagant hopes raised for the cure of headaches and so forth, by the use of glasses, which have led to a frequent reference of grave constitutional disorders, such as epilepsy, to the accommodation of the ocular (sight) muscles, must finally be given up.”

Even in those rare cases where the symptoms are apparently due to eye strain and where glasses give a measure of relief, the cause or causes of strain are not corrected nor removed. The one who attempts to use his eyes without his glasses soon discovers

that his old symptoms are still with him. But it is a fact that sooner or later the glasses substitute discomforts and strains of their own. Glasses are like drugs, they create a need for themselves. The longer they are worn the stronger lenses one needs, and as the progressive weakening of the eyes continues, the strains produced by glasses result in partial or complete blindness.

Glasses are not even to be recommended as a convenience, to be used until your health is improved. You may derive a passing satisfaction from their use, but to sacrifice your sight and future happiness for this would be extremely foolish. To wear glasses, when their aid should not be sought and to keep on wearing them when they ought to go out with the garbage is very unwise. Break them, lose them or throw them away. I knew a man who wore glasses and thought he would always have to wear them. One day he lost them. As he was too poor to purchase another pair at once, he had to get along without them. At first seeing was difficult, but as time passed his vision improved until he could see better without glasses than with them. The eyes learn to depend on glasses and cannot be educated away from them until you cease wearing them. Not more than a few in a hundred who wear glasses suffer with a condition of the eyes which cannot be remedied.

Most if not all failures of sight may be traced back to some weakening illness, or to something that affected the nervous system. Why should such conditions be ignored and the eyes married to a pair of glass crutches? Glasses are simply not the proper treatment for eye troubles. Proper treatment will restore clearness and elasticity to the lens, normal activity to the nerves, coordination and tone to the muscles and health to other delicate parts of the eyes. Glasses cannot do these things—they do the opposite.

Ailing or affected muscles, nerves and tissues or organs anywhere in the body need good blood and so do ailing eyes and failing and defective vision. Eyes that are weak following illness, certainly do not require glasses. Like weak legs and arms, under such conditions, they only require rest, proper care and time. The legs grow stronger day by day during convalescence; so do the eyes, if they are not abused or overtaxed. If there are instances of children having been born with certain defects of sight that require glasses in childhood, such instances must be extremely rare.

Eye glasses are eye crutches. If there is ever a time when they should be worn, it is certainly only when one is crippled in the eyes. Like all artificial methods of performing the body's functions for it, they weaken the function of the eyes. They are distinctly bad in all cases.

Glasses do not impart vigor or youth to the eyes. On the contrary, they make the eyes dull and lifeless. Glasses do not indicate refinement, studiousness, scholar!iness,

and brain development. They do not improve your personal appearance. They are not ornamental. They steadily weaken and dim the eyesight. They increase eye-strain. They weaken the muscles and nerves of the eye. They invariably aggravate the condition they are given to correct. If you, dear reader, are having trouble with your eyes, instead of adopting eye-crutches, you should find out what is causing your troubles and correct this.

The world got along for ages without glasses. Even after glasses were first placed on the market, they were worn for a long time by old people only. Then, the oculists decided to “educate” the public to the need of glasses and it is now quite the fashion to wear glasses. It is almost equivalent to being a crank to be caught with good eye sight and disclaim any need for these crutches. The manufacture and sale of spectacles is now a Big Business and there is a whole army of men engaged in the pretense of examining the eyes and fitting glasses.

XX. Care of the Glands

The ductless or endocrine glands (pituitary, pineal, thyroid, parathyroids, thymus, spleen, pancreas, adrenals, ovaries, testicles, etc.), so-called because they discharge their secretions directly into the blood-stream, without the aid of a duct, are, most of them at least, among the large number of organs in the body that the Darwinians and the medical profession classed among the useless survivals (vestiges) of our hypothetical pre-human stages. After it was discovered that these actually do function and that their functions are out of all proportion to their sizes, there arose the tendency to regard the human body as a few ductless glands and a few unimportant appendages. “We are what our glands make us,” we are told. Our characters, our dispositions, our mental alertness or lack of alertness, our physical energy or its lack, the contour and conditions of our bodies, our “diseases,” etc., were all traced to our glands. It is true that the endocrine disturbances that result from the diet commonly eaten result, not alone in disturbed vital function, but also in a disturbance of the whole body structure.

There arose a new group of specialists (endocrinologists), and a new specialism (endocrinology) to deal with fragments of the body. In endocrinology we are up against specialism of a virulent kind. The endocrinologist, like all other specialists, has too restricted an outlook, limited by his limited experience, and becomes so narrow that he loses the ability to discriminate and to understand the deeper aspects of life.

Coordination of activities is a striking fact of animal life—of physiology. What happens at one place is adapted to what is occurring at another. The glands of internal secretion are integral parts of the body’s mechanism of coordination and correlation. Their secretions, called hormones, are carried to other parts of the body where they aid in controlling functions. Every gland depends upon the cooperation of the others, while the whole organism is dependent, for its well-being, upon a subde and coordinated inter-organic interaction requiring a high degree of subordination of the parts to the common good. “The living cells not only minister to the flow of nutrition, but also transmit other stimulations as between organs and organs.”

The blood, the nerves, the endocrines are denominated the controlling mechanism of the body, but what controls these? What regulates these? Is it not true, as a matter of everyday physiology, that the blood is the creation of the organs themselves? Here is a question that, so far as I know, physiologists and biologists have not even attempted to answer, if, indeed, they have ever asked it: What controls the controls? To put this in the words of Greiner: “What is the nature and where the location of the

mechanisms that regulate and control the regulating and controlling mechanisms?" It is all very well to tell us that the pituitary controls the function of the ovary, but what controls the pituitary? Why did it not cause the ovaries to function in infancy, why did it wait until puberty? How did it know when puberty had arrived? How does it know when to institute the "change of life." Why does it not bring on the "change" in the teens?

It is not enough to say that the ductless glands are suppliers of indispensable activators of normal work and leave the matter here. For they require to be supplied by the organism with materials appropriate to the production of their hormones and with materials out of which to produce their own tissue. The glands have their duties to perform towards "us," but we in turn, owe reciprocal duties towards them. It is necessary to emphasize that the glands are integral parts of the body, not the makers of the body—that they partake of its general health or lack of it and that gland health may be maintained or restored by maintaining or restoring general health. We cannot care for or treat the glands independent of the rest of the organism. Their symbiotic relationship to the general system cannot be ignored.

Every gland depends for its normal function upon the co-operation of other glands and structures of the body (internal control or symbiosis) and in a wider sense, upon cooperation with biological partners (external control), chiefly plants and plant products—food. The use of the term "internal secretion" tends to conceal from us the fact that the vital potencies of these secretions are derived from plants. Until it is recognized that the vital potencies of these glandular secretions are derived from plants, which alone possess the synthetic powers of manufacture, and that the hormone thus has behind it, as the norm of life, the sanction of symbiotic plant-animal co-evolution, the vital substance of an adequate supply of special, matured food—food pregnant with substances suitable to permanent and harmonious physiological cooperation of the organs of the body—will not be fully appreciated.

Health and growth depend much upon a uniform diffusion of the special products of plant and animal cooperation. Food substances which supply the organism with raw materials that avail to life in the fullest extent and which are ideally equipped with vital potencies requisite to hormone-secretion are derived from our symbiotic vegetable partners—from the vital spare-products of these. "Love-foods," as Drummond calls them, are the best glandular foods.

Physiologists and biologists seem to take it for granted that the chemical constituents of glandular secretions (hormones) are in the blood and that these are received in food. They never tackle the problem of the origin of suitable sources of raw materials for the glands. They blundered seriously when they identified these

glandular products with drugs and even tried to substitute drugs for hormones when these latter were deemed inadequate. Hormones are manufactured by the endocrine glands out of substances contained in the blood. But before they can be in the blood, they must first be contained in the food. This means that the vital potencies of these internal secretions are derived from plants, which, as before stated, alone possess the necessary synthetic powers of manufacture.

The present vogue is to administer glandular extracts to those adjudged to be suffering with glandular deficiencies. The weakest link in this chain lies in the fact that it does not go deep enough. It treats the deranged gland as though it were the primary cause—as though it causes its own derangement—and also ignores the general state of the body. No attention is given to the cause of the glandular derangement. Another weakness in the effort to supply the glandular secretion from animal sources, instead of restoring the gland to health, is seen in what the physiologist, P. G. Styles, says of the adrenal glands: “Their extracts do not successfully compensate for the lack of living cells; the body seems to need a slow uniform delivery of this internal secretion, and periodic dosing does not prove equivalent to the natural condition.”

It is fairly certain that the body needs a slow and uniform delivery of all internal secretions. Certainly the use of insulin in diabetes has not been successfully substituted for the normal function of the pancreas. On the contrary insulin has proved to be a very dangerous drug, producing damages of its own. Adrenalin is equally potent with danger. There is reason to believe that when gland extracts are given, the glands they are intended to help are further reduced in function. The pancreas, for instance, probably produces less of its hormone when insulin is used than when no insulin is employed.

Many troubles are blamed on “endocrine imbalance”—that is, upon a lack of balance between the hormones of the various ductless glands. Efforts to remedy such conditions are usually unavailing. The toxemia and nutritional chaos that are responsible for the “imbalance” are wholly overlooked. Ductless gland extracts are administered and, at most, these are only crutches. Insulin is given in diabetes, thyroid extract in myxoedema or cretinism, pituitary extract in the inertias of the unstriped muscular fibres. Physicians have been deceived by their striking immediate effects. They do not correct the nutritional chaos nor remove the basic toxemia, out of which alone recovery can come.

Irregularity of glandular action is commensurate with the irregularity of ill-gotten supplies and is the apparent norm among predacious species, which, as a result, if they have more excitement of life are yet in the end left with diminished strength and

endurance, and with uncouth, ill-shapen bodies. The poisoning ensuing upon exuberance of nutrition and unsuitable food requires to be specially coped with and provided against by particular glands, the task of which is a very delicate and arduous one, involving frequent fatigue and breakdowns due to overwork, making the task increasingly difficult.

Sokoloff tells us that “every prolonged infraction of the harmony of nutrition may lead to considerable changes in the organism, and the very glands to be affected are just those on which the energy of life depends—those whose normal activity preserves our youth—the sexual and supra-renal glands.”

Other methods commonly employed in the treatment of glands are X-rays, ultra-violet rays and other rays, electricity, drugs and mechanical and thermal measures. These measures are employed to either stimulate or to inhibit function. These measures, like the use of glandular products, ignore the causes of the trouble, ignore the general health and also produce damages of their own. The question is a pertinent one: Why are the glands *deranged*? Can the reason for their derangement be found and removed? The practice of stimulating or inhibiting the deranged gland cannot give more than temporary relief.

So long as the cause or occasion for the glandular derangement is present the derangement will persist. If the interfering element be removed the gland will again become normal in its activities, providing it has not been irreparably damaged. And this is one reason we object to stimulating or inhibiting them; it hastens their destruction and at the same time leaves cause untouched, so that the glands reach a point where a return to normal is impossible. An intelligent practice will not allow degenerative changes to reach such a point.

Treatment of this nature may and often does produce temporary relief. However, no method or system of treatment can be judged by its immediate effect. A dose of opium, or a cup of coffee, may produce an immediate feeling of well being, the eating of an orange may not produce such an effect. But if we look into the future and note the ultimate results we can easily decide which is best. Our test must ever be the condition of the patient six months or a year after treatment.

Our duties to our glands are forgotten and we are offered, not rational care of the glands, but treatment, or rather, mis-treatment of them. The *Hygienist* recognizes the glandular derangement, not as an isolated or unrelated evil, but as part of an aggregate of evils—a systemic derangement—which must be abolished collectively and not one at a time, and replaced by the factors of positive health, before a single major existing evil can be remedied. In the prevailing modes of treatment, recovery of health is effectually blocked by the incongruity existing between a therapeutic system based

on suppression of symptoms for petty ends and the real needs of the sick organism. We must put our physiological house in order; not by myriads of local treatments, as physicians with a financial interest in our sufferings are bent upon doing, but by duly adjusting ourselves to the ordered harmony of nature upon which every organ and function in our bodies depends. We cannot expect nature to alter herself and accomodate herself to our morbid appetencies and selfish ends.

XXI. Emotional Control

In this chapter we have to deal with one of the most important and, at the same time, one of the least understood phases of our highly complex life; one that has a very important bearing upon the recovery and maintenance of good health. I refer to the emotions, of which man is capable of a wide variety. In considering the emotions, it is essential that we keep in mind that they are modes of action of the individual and not mere states of mind.

Sue speaks thus in his admirable conception, Adrienne de Cordoville: "She understood not this absolute separation of the body from the soul, which supposes that one shares not the virtues or sins of the other. From the very fact that she had the religion of the senses and that she refined and venerated them as a divine and adorable manifestation, Adrienne entertained on the subject of the senses, scruples, delicacies and extraordinary and invincible repugnances wholly unknown to those austere spiritualists and to those ascetic prudes who under pretense of vileness, the worthlessness of matter, regard the deviations from its laws of little consequence, and treat it as dirt in order to prove all the contempt they feel for it."

There is a close and inseparable relation of the mind and body. This being so it is impossible to deal with the mind alone or with the body alone. Man's bodily functions are numerous, but they are so correlated and integrated as to form a unit. Man's mind cannot be separated from the body and maintain its individuality. The body without mind is an idiot. "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." Does this old truth have no significance for those who try to divide the human being into separate and even warring sections—body and mind, or body, mind and soul? This may be called the *law of unity*. It is one of the basic laws of nature. When any school of so-called healing violates it in its care of patients, it cannot but fail. The human being is a physical, mental, emotional and spiritual unit and not a mere bundle of separate and more or less antagonistic elements. Health is a matter of vital, nutritive and psychic hygiene.

Before making an effort to define and describe emotion it seems necessary to briefly explain two other forms of behavior which are linked up with the emotions. This is necessary in order to an understanding of emotions. Let us begin with "reflexes." A "reflex" is defined as "a simple inherited mode of response controlled by the nervous system." It is not a state of consciousness, but a mode of muscular and glandular activity. Examples of "reflex" action are the contraction of the iris muscle of the eye when gazing into a strong light; the flow of saliva into the mouth upon the

taste of food; the withdrawal of the hand from a hot stove. Such activities are called *unconditioned reflexes* to distinguish them from actions that result from training—called *conditioned reflexes*. For instance, by training an animal may be caused to pour out a copious flow of saliva upon the ringing of a bell.

In *Basic Principles of Natural Hygiene*, I have shown that actions called “reflexes” are not reflex actions, but as no word has yet been coined to describe what actually occurs, I shall use the term here, but with the distinct understanding that the term conveys a false picture of what occurs. Also I want to make clear that there is no “inevitableness of reflexes.” It is now certain that “circumstances alter reflexes.” For example, the salivary glands of a hungry man may secrete a copious flow of saliva when he looks into the windows of an open bake shop, those of the well-fed man to whom the window offers no seduction, will not overflow with their secretion. Living organisms are not mere automatisms and “reflexes” are no more the masters of an organism than are its conscious acts. They are servants and under normal conditions, even the lower and less complex forms of life, behave as free agents. Were we slaves of our “reflexes” it would be useless to talk of emotional control.

Instinct is the natural or unpremeditated response to internal states and actions in relation to external states. Instincts are fundamental forms of behavior—they are certain characteristic modes of action—inherited forms of action controlled by the nervous system; inherited unconditioned “reflexes.” They are modes of behavior rather than states of consciousness. Instincts are fundamental because all later developments in conduct are composed of modifications of this original “stuff” of human nature.

Instincts, like “reflexes,” are controllable. We are not slaves to our instincts. Instinct may impel us to flee danger, but we may repress the impulse and stay to assist another or to save valuables. If our instincts were not amenable to conscious control, we would not be able to control our emotions.

Emotions involve both modes of action and modes of feeling. There is a close connection between instincts and emotions—both are unlearned processes and at least some of our instincts, like all emotions, involve both ways of feeling and acting. Emotions, like instincts, are unlearned processes—they are fundamental, primitive, impulsive and almost irresistible.

The presently accepted view of emotions is that they arise out of bodily changes. This means that unless organic changes follow the perception of the “exciting fact,” the experience (perception) is cold or non-emotional. In this view, as James explained it, sorrow, for instance, is not immediately induced by the loss of our fortune, let us say, but by the bodily manifestations which must first be interposed between the loss

and the sorrow. “Without the bodily states following on the perception”—of danger, loss, insult, etc.—“the latter would be purely cognitive in form, pale, colorless, destitute of emotional warmth. We might then see the bear and judge it best to run, receive the insult and then deem it right to strike, but we should not actually *feel* afraid or angry.”

James has it that if anger does not involve a general muscular tenseness, a tendency to attack, a rapid heart-beat, and an increased respiratory rate, it is hardly anger. “If we take anger or fear or any other emotion and mentally abstract from it all the bodily disturbances or organic resonances, no emotion is left.” There is a very delicate and wide-spread bodily disturbance during emotional states. It should be understood that many, if not most of the organic activities which give rise to emotions are internal and not external. Emotion is preceded by and depends upon a physiological occurrence. Our feelings well up from within.

We are not always aware of the visceral changes—may not even notice the increased rate of breathing or the rapid heart action—but we are vividly aware of a general change in bodily feeling. We may be aware of great distress in the region of the stomach and intestine. Perhaps the best way to remedy gastric pain accompanying fear, is to run—translate the fear into action and use up the endocrine excesses this causes to be thrown into the blood stream, and relieve the concomitant nervous tension.

James has been accused, and with much reason, of standing the facts on their head to arrive at his description of how emotions arise. One critic says that he maintains that “we feel sad because we cry, that we feel fear because we run, and the like. This in face of the undeniable fact that we do not always experience fear when we run, that we feel most fear when we are unable to run away from danger, that we do cry for joy, that moderate emotions stimulate action while intense emotions paralyze the motor apparatus, that the emotions outlive the visceral disturbances of which they are supposed to be a mere mental reflection or translation, nay, emotions are felt more intensely after the cessation of the visceral disturbances and consequent muscular activity.”

He points out that even James admitted that the visceral disturbances and muscular activities follow the perception of danger in the case of fear and the perception of the beloved or coveted object in the case of joy. He says that, although James knew only too well that the recognition of the source of danger or of the loved one is antecedent to the visceral-muscular actions, he very conveniently ignored these. Thus, he had the man to see the bear, run and, as a consequence of the running, become afraid. He does not run because he is afraid; he is afraid because he runs. The

reader should understand that the greater part of what passes current for “scientific psychology” may be reduced to ruins in much the same way that this reduces the psychology of James. The psycho-analytic mythologies of Freud, Jung and Adler, with all their grotesqueries and palpable absurdities, although they have enjoyed a great vogue for several years, were but the mental excrement of notoriety-seeking, sensation-mongering professionals.

Emotions are psycho-neuro-glandular-muscular phenomena in which the psycho-neural phase is first, but in which the glandular and muscular activities and inactivities are important components. They are mind-body actions, rather than states, and involve, in many of them, great expenditure of energy. Because of this energy-waste they are of special importance to the student of living.

An emotion is a pleasant or unpleasant consciousness of organic changes or disturbances “reflexly” aroused plus an awareness of some thought or object that has aroused the emotion. Emotions enable us to fuse our inner or subjective life with external things. They give warmth and value to the series of conscious states; without emotions the stream of consciousness would be “coldly” intellectual. They are an aid to memory; affect attention, aid in producing and maintaining social solidarity, and aid in adjusting the individual to his environment. Emotions fulfill the wide physiological, psychological, sociological and biological usefulness requisite to provide the necessary support and sanction for their permanence.

Pain, fear and rage “stimulate” the adrenal glands through the sympathetic system. More adrenin is thrown into the blood causing the blood to be sent from the viscera to the skeletal muscles and thus increasing their efficiency—contractile power, speed, etc.—conversion of glycogen in the liver into the blood sugar is increased; muscular fatigue is decreased; and the time required for the blood to coagulate is decreased. Thus it may be seen that pain resulting from wounds, ultimately brings about changes in the blood more rapid blood clotting—that hasten the sealing up of the wound. Fear and rage, resulting from the same wound (perhaps the wound is received while in rage, as in fighting, or while in fear, while fleeing) also result in changes in the body and finally in the blood that hasten the sealing up of the wound.

The physiologist, Stiles, has pointed out that stress or excitement can throw the adrenals into temporary activity far beyond their ordinary performance and that at such a time, the chief product of the adrenal cells (adrenin) is increased in the blood. He adds, “It has also been proved that this internal secretion confers upon an individual the utmost command of his physical resources.” Every emotion serves a necessary and natural function in man. The increased muscular contraction and

efficiency seen in anger is an outcome of the organism's rapid mobilization of its energies for a fight, for defense. Fear, by doing the same thing, gives greater speed and endurance for flight.

Mood or temperament is a more or less permanent tendency (predisposition) to certain types of emotional experience. The tendency towards a given form of emotional response may be the result of indigestion, loss of sleep, good or bad news, habits of thought, etc. A *sentiment* is a group of instincts and emotions organized around a particular object or idea. Love and hate are typical sentiments. Instinct, emotion, sentiment and reason or intellect are not separate elements, one of which "stimulates" or employs the other; they are simply varying and blended manifestations of the same fundamental impulse of life. Only our love of water-tight compartments prevents us from realizing the unity of our mental, emotional and instinctive life.

Emotions involve considerable functional modifications—great acceleration of some, great inhibition, amounting in some cases to complete suspension, of other functions. This necessitates considerable nervous expenditure, so that if emotional intensity is prolonged or often repeated, nervous exhaustion is the result.

Where emotions are not translated into action there results what might be termed an "emotional overflow" and this results harmfully. Repression of the desire to run in fear, gives rise to trembling, profuse perspiration, involuntary urination, diarrhea, etc., and if the experiences of the war were correctly interpreted, paralysis, insanity, etc. Death may even result. Perhaps the frightened person could do nothing better than run, even if he only runs around the room a few times.

The destructive effects upon the body of intense emotions that find no normal muscular outlet for expression are often like an electric shock, altering the feelings, deranging functions and affecting the individual's sanity as certainly as alcohol or tobacco. Violent fits of passion will often arrest, alter or derange the functions of the body as quickly as an electric shock. Digestion may be wholly suspended by a profound state of fear, worry, anxiety or suspense. Fright, anxiety or even sudden joy are often immediately followed by diarrhea. Many students who have been exceedingly anxious about their examinations have experienced a diarrhea as a result. These same influences have all been observed to cause the appearance of sugar in the urine.

Mental shocks, anger, melancholy and all disagreeable or abnormal mental and emotional states render the secretions of the body more or less morbid. Anger quickly modifies the bile; grief arrests the secretion of the gastric juices; violent rage is said to make the saliva poisonous; fear relaxes the bowels, often resulting in a sudden and

involuntary discharge of the contents of the bowels and bladder. It is claimed that many mothers have injured and even killed their nursing infants by furious emotions, which alter their milk. It is known that such emotions as fear, worry, jealousy, anger, etc., will reduce the secretion of milk and impair its food value to such an extent that the infant does not thrive on it.

Life insurance examiners often make two or three urine tests when glycosuria is found, for they know that this condition may be due to fear, worry, anxiety, excitement, etc. If worry becomes habitual or chronic, then permanent impairment of these functions follows. Sugar often appears in the urine during emotional states, nervous excitement or following a profound shock. Even so slight a nervous strain as accompanies the taking of an examination in school or college may cause sugar to appear in the urine. It may also cause frequent urination and Toss of appetite.

As another example of the effects of fear upon secretion, there is the well known graying of the hair in those who have been profoundly shocked through fear or by some great horror. Men sentenced to death often become gray haired in a few days. In World War I I saw young men go to France with hair as black as graphite and return a few months later as gray as aged men. This loss of color by the hair is due to the suspension of the secretion of minute glands at the roots of the hair caused by fear.

Fear that does not find normal muscular expression is the most destructive of all emotions. It benumbs and paralyzes the body and wastes nerve energy as few other things do. It has often been the cause of sudden death in weak individuals. There is a striking similarity between great fear and freezing. In both cases the face is blanched, the teeth chatter, the body trembles (shivers), becomes cramped and bent, the chest is contracted, breathing is slow and comes in short gasps. Fear greatly affects the heart. In one case of death of an animal, through fear, witnessed by the author, the heart was ruptured.

The stomach ceases to function under fear. Dr. Canon, noted investigator of the physiology and pathology of digestion, was once watching the movements of the intestines of a cat by means of the X-ray. One day during the course of his observations a dog barked near the laboratory, frightening the cat. The cat's intestines immediately became rigid and immobile, forcing him to discontinue his experiment for several hours. Fear had caused the rhythmic muscular motions of the cat's intestines to cease altogether. Many experiments have shown that these same influences interfere with and impair the functions of the glands that secrete the digestive juices.

Canon showed conclusively that in a state of pain, fear and rage the normal contractions of the stomach and intestines are inhibited and that the salivary and

gastric secretions are checked or completely suspended. The dryness of the mouth in these states, due to lack of salivary flow, is known to everyone. The same condition exists in the stomach. One of the most important rules of mental or emotional hygiene is: *refrain from taking food while in an emotional state that inhibits digestion*. There are many things people fear —death, the “hereafter,” the “end of the world,” poverty, the dark, and a thousand and one things. It makes no difference in the results of fear, however, what one fears.

Worry is a baby fear. It impairs secretion and excretion and depresses all the functions of the body. The secretions are altered and nutrition is impaired. Poisons accumulate in the body. The victim gradually wastes away. None of the functions of the body are carried on properly under such a state of mind. The appetite is impaired and digestion is weakened. Every time there is a panic in the stock market the stock brokers rush to their physicians to be *cured* of constipation or of a functional glycosuria (sugar in the urine).

More often than otherwise, things over which people worry are trivial and unimportant. Often too, they worry over things they think are coming, troubles that are just ahead, or losses they are about to sustain. Usually they derive all the misery and unhappiness they can out of these things beforehand, then the thing they feared does not materialize. They do not have the trouble they expected, do not sustain the loss they so much dreaded. If the trouble does come, the misery they have suffered while anticipating it does not help them to bear up under it. On the contrary, instead of lessening one’s power to meet and overcome the “necessary evils” of life, it multiplies them, while weakening one’s talents and energies and preventing one from accomplishing one’s best mental and physical work.

Dr. Latson recounts an experiment which he performed while a medical student at Columbia University. In a large room several healthy dogs were confined. One of these was placed in a large open cage in the center of the room, while three or four others were permitted to wander about the room at will. The dog confined to the cage whined and worried and made every effort to get out to his friends. After several days, careful analytical tests were made. These revealed that the loose dogs remained in good health, but the dog in the cage developed, among other things, a well marked case of glycosuria. Numerous repetitions of this test with the same results eliminated the possibility of error. The reader will see in this experiment and its results, the influence of worry in impairing the functions of the body that are concerned in the metabolism of sugar. Numerous experiences have revealed that it will result in the same impairment of sugar metabolism in man.

Someone has called self-pity mental consumption. It is the dry-rot of the soul.

We frequently meet whining, complaining individuals who feel that life has not given them a square deal. Instead of buckling down to hard work and earning the rewards of life, they sit around and feel sorry for themselves. Every such person feels that his lot in life is the worst that anyone ever had. I say “feel” advisedly, for this class of people seldom think. The mental state of such “lone-lorn creatures” is difficult to describe, but its effects on the body are readily apparent. They do not regain their health until they are educated out of their self-pity. They do not enjoy life. They do not relish their foods. Everything they eat disagrees with them. They never sleep well. They are victims of constant introspection. They are constantly discovering new symptoms, new pains, new worries. They lead a miserable life, indeed. And their misery is all due to the fact that they feel sorry for themselves and desire that others feel sorry for them.

Grief is among the mental states that exert the most profound, far-reaching and powerful effects upon the body. Intense grief often kills outright. As in fear, in grief also, the hair has been changed from black to grey in a few days. The secretion of the mother’s milk is checked and altered as surely and as quickly by grief as by lack of or by change of food. Indeed, one of the immediate effects of grief is to reduce and impair secretion and function. Sorrow, as in disappointed love often produces a wasted, weakened state of the body resembling consumption. Blighted love constitutes one of the most fruitful sources of indisposition. Grief takes away appetite instantly. A young girl’s sailor sweetheart came into port. She waited a day or two and when he did not come to her or communicate with her, attempted to drown herself. She was rescued by two sailors, and her sweetheart, who had been detained on board ship by duties that had to be performed, was brought to her. He asked her when she had eaten and she replied: “Not since yesterday, Bill, I couldn’t.” Grief had impaired or suspended secretion and taken away all desire for food. It would have been punishment to eat under such circumstances. Food consumed under such conditions would have fermented and putrefied and poisoned the body.

A young boy disappeared from home. He left a note telling his mother that she might not see him again. The mother was grief-stricken. Her very life was in danger. Her physician feared that if he did not return or send word of his whereabouts, she would die. Such is the power of grief to influence and impair the processes and functions of the body. It may cause collapse and death. Secretion and excretion are impaired, elimination is checked, digestion is deranged, nutrition perverted, profound enervation is produced and toxemia grows daily. Weight is lost. Appetite is lacking. Disease and death may easily result.

Lying, stealing, cheating, gambling and all forms of dishonesty, produce

enervation and hardening of the arteries. In all of these there is the fear of being found out. In gambling there is tension and the fear of losing. Before conscience becomes hardened there is the stinging lash of remorse and loss of self-respect.

Many people, particularly women, have the very bad habit of permitting their emotions to run away with them. Indeed, they seem to derive a kind of false pleasure out of the sham emotions which they purposely work up. A sham emotion is an impulse or a sensation which is cultivated for its own sake and which is not intended to be translated into action. Anne Payson Call said of these: "Sham emotions torture, whether they be of love, religion, or liquor. Emotional excess is a woman's form of drunkenness. Nervous prostration is her delirium tremens." She made that statement more than forty years ago, before the women had acquired the other form of drunkenness.

Emotionalism is, indeed, a variety of intoxication, or perhaps it is more correctly described as hysteria. It is the "rose pink sentimentalism" which Carlyle so abhorred as "the second power of a lie, the tissue of deceit that has never been and never can be woven into action." Emotions or sensations should normally be translated into action. If they are cultivated for their own sake, with no purpose beyond this, they weaken and destroy both the mind and the body. Intense emotions and sentimentalism work in much the same manner as liquor, and have very much the same evil results. Religious emotions, often used as a source of pleasurable thrills, are very destructive to the nervous system. They have resulted in insanity in many instances. Any religion which leads to emotionalism, hysteria, trance, catalepsy, etc., is not religion, but mania.

Happiness is man's normal state. Blue-law advocates who seek to have their vinegar ideas incorporated into law, seem to think that virtue means joylessness and its reward a crown of thorns. The adoption of their program would soon convert a fertile continent into a barren wasteland. Joy and happiness are essential to health. There are few *Hygienic* influences that are equally as conducive to health and long life as a cheerful, equitable state of mind. Cheer is to the body what sunshine and dew are to the grasses and flowers. It promotes digestion, paints the cheeks, puts a bright sparkle into the eyes and lends a buoyancy and elasticity to one's tread. Any mental state that does not promote cheer, that puts a harshness into one's words and expressions, that blanches one's cheeks and dulls the natural sparkle of the eyes, exerts a depressing effect upon every function of the body and plays havoc with all the forces of life.

Emotions have been very conveniently classified as *constructive* and *destructive*. If we do not take this classification too literally, it may be very serviceable. Among

the *constructive* emotions and sentiments are joy, happiness, love, cheer, courage;, good will, etc., while among the *destructive* emotions and moods are hate, fear, anger, worry, anxiety, apprehension, self-pity, etc. If we analyze the body states and actions in these two groups of emotions, we easily discover a valid basis for this classification.

The basic difference between the *constructive* and *destructive* emotions is that, whereas the former induce a languor and delight partaking of the qualities of indulgence and relaxation; the latter exhibit the most violent tensions and make the muscular system engage in convulsive actions. The *destructive* emotions and feelings have this general character, that there is energetic action and tremor, the effect of systemic and great excitement producing, finally, debility, exhaustion and loss of tone from over activity.

On the other hand, the pleasurable emotions are characterized by languor, tranquility and relaxation. There is a degree of inaction and a forgetfulness of bodily exertion and an indulgence in mental contemplation. Such moods as the contemplation of beauty, or the admiration of soft music result in a sense of languor; the body reclines, the lips are half opened; the eyes have a softened lustre from the falling of the eyelids, breathing is slow and there is an almost total unconsciousness of bodily sensations.

We may say, then, that the tensions and violent actions of the destructive emotions, together with their almost complete repression of some functions, result in great and rapid loss of nerve energy-produce enervation; while the *constructive*, by the relaxing effects of these conserve nerve energy. To get a clearer picture of the energy wasting effects of the painful emotions let us look at weeping and grief. In this state the diaphragm is spasmodically and irregularly affected, the chest and throat are tense, breathing is interrupted by sobbing, inspiration is hurried, expiration is slower with a melancholy note. In the violence of weeping accompanied with lamentation there is a flushed face, due to suffused and “stagnant” blood, and the veins of the forehead are distended. The violence and tension of grief, the lamentations and the tumult, like all strong excitements, gradually exhaust the grieving person. Sadness and regret, with depression of spirits and fond recollections follow upon grief. Lassitude of the whole body with dejection of the face and heaviness of the eyes, relaxation of lips and falling of the lower jaw attest to the degree of exhaustion that has been produced. Though grief is in general distinguished by its violence, lamentation and tumult, sorrow is silent, deep-brooding and full of depression, with sometimes the stupefaction that characterizes the late phase of grief —“the lethargy of woe.”

While at this place, I have confined my description of emotional states to the outward actions and manifestations, having already pointed out the functional disturbances which they produce, I would like again to emphasize that their disturbances of internal functions are every bit as enervating as the muscular actions which they occasion.

It does one little good to eat a perfect diet, if his mental state is such as to impair and prevent digestion. Gloominess and grouchiness lead to an early grave. Happiness, contentment and cheer should be cultivated with as much care and persistence as the gardener exercises in the cultivation of his plants.

Symbiosis will not let us think of the emotions as essentially antagonistic to the welfare of the body and we must clearly recognize that the classification of emotions as *constructive* and *destructive* is purely artificial and arbitrary. Such a classification may be convenient and useful if we do not permit it to blind us to the important fact that all emotions are essentially aimed at useful purposes. Emotions have remained permanent because of serviceableness—this is, because they avail towards life. They require, not suppression, but control. Dr. Paul Carton has truly said that, “People, spiteful and vindictive towards other men, brutal and cruel to animals, destroying without reason inanimate things, live in a venomous and cataclysmic atmosphere. They doom themselves to unhappiness and sickness. Only those that are kindly and altruistic, that love not only their parents, their children, their friends, but are neither mean nor vindictive to their enemies, may enjoy complete physical peace and moral harmony.”

Self-control is the great law of mental hygiene. Emotional excess and sham emotions, whether of art, music, poetry, love, religion, etc., are all weakening in the extreme. How to control the emotions, then, becomes a subject worthy of cultivation. “I low humble and obedient the passions have always been before the majesty of moral precepts!” exclaims Lazarus, somewhat in mockery of those who expect people to control their emotions merely because the moral precept says they should. More is required than a set of moral precepts or a code of commandments, if we are to control our emotions in the interest of our highest welfare. The fact that the human being is a unit means that control must be general and, to be fully effective, cannot be confined to the emotions. No mere program of repression and suppression will suffice. Again it must be emphasized that the body goes forward or backward as a unit. Food and exercise, rest and sleep, sunshine and air, abstinence from all enervating indulgences are essential to emotional control.

The emotions, being primarily physiological or organic, are greatly affected by the general health and the regular habits of the body. Our wrong eating habits, bad

sex habits and poison habits in particular greatly influence our emotional “reactions.” The tendency to emotional over-irritation is much greater in the sick than in the well, and the sick are injured more by these forms of irritation—have less resisting power and less ability to recuperate from their effects. Normal living habits are essential to a normal emotional life.

Nature bestows the highest sanction upon those biological and sociological relations which, while they demand appropriate restraints of appetites, yet provide utmost opportunity for the development of each for the good of all. If religious leaders will grasp this natural sanction for morality and discard their mythical supernatural sanctions, they can aid in developing a religion of life, of citizenship and socialism. We must become as zealous for the glory of man as Asia is for the glory of God; we must aim at the fullness and completeness of human life instead of Nirvana.

We have every reason to believe that whatever of spiritual values we have discovered, or of which we have become aware, are not contrary to Nature. As one writer well puts it, “We have not imposed virtue upon an unvirtuous earth, but we have abstracted ideas and ideals from the virtues we found already existing therein.”

Dr. Wilkinson’s *Epic* has St. Paul say to Krishna:

"Not from desire, but from impure desire
To cease—that is salvation; and we best
Cease from impure desire when we to flame
The whitest fan desire for all things true,
For all things pure, and all things lovely, all
Of good report, and worthy human praise.
Passion for these things, being pure passion, burns
The impure passion out; but passion such
Is kindled only at the altar fire
Of the eternal God's white holiness."—Paul, 437

This versification of Paul’s advice to “think on these things,” which is the greatest prescription of mental hygiene ever given, only needs the addition of courage and love to be complete. Truly if man keeps his thoughts on things true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, of good report and worthy of praise, there will be no room in his mind for things unchaste, dishonorable, unjust, untrue, ugly, of evil report and unworthy of praise.

Emotions may be controlled and educated. The man whose natural tendency is to strike back can learn to turn the other cheek; the young man who is afraid of the dark can conquer his fear. Reason and suggestion are capable of conditioning the “reflex responses” and may be used to determine one’s emotional “responses.” The follower

of Tolstoy only smiles when he is called a liar—he does not allow this to insult and anger him.

Auto-suggestion has been employed by millions as a means of re-directing or re-conditioning their “reflexes.” One who thinks hate, vengeance, spite, all the time will quickly arouse corresponding emotions. He who thinks love, peace, good will, will be slow to anger. He who cultivates a philosophical view of life and strives after emotional poise may have it. It is as easy to cultivate cheer, courage and contentment as it is to cultivate cabbage.

Our thinking largely determines us. Well does Dr. W. R. C. Latson say, in discussing the influence of our thinking upon us. “What made him the hopeless drunkard, the village ‘rummy?’ His own thinking. His own false ideals of comradeship, of being ‘popular,’ of being a good fellow, a man of the world, his own vain notion of his power to stop drinking when he wanted to. In other words, his mental state, his ideals have made him what he is.

“And then, in his shining car, the multi-millionaire whizzes past. He is puffy of eye and jowl. He is richly clad and vulgar. Rapacity, low cunning, and still lower debauchery, have left their ugly marks upon his face and body. Men despise him and fear him. They abominate him, but they cringe to him. lie belongs to the abominated class, the predatory rich.

“And what has made him what lie is? Was it not his mental attitude, that attitude so false and cruel, so suicidal if he but knew it—the attitude of the man who preys upon his fellow men.

“And then come to the tennis field. See that dear-eyed, clearvoiced, stalwart youngster of twenty. Watch him play. lie is strong, active, graceful, straight-forward, manliness, sweet. What makes him so? Is it anything else but his mentality—anything other than his firm conviction that to be these things is right and desirable to be other than these things is wrong and detestable.

“Have you ever known a pretty, wholesome girl who was at the same time irritable, arbitrary, inconsiderate and worrisome? Have you observed her for a decade? If so, have you not seen her good looks fade, her charm disappear? Have you not seen her become haggard, repellent, prematurely old—and diseased? I have seen — alas, I see them daily—scores of such cases.

“And the cause? Again the mental state. Had the toper kept clean high ideals; had the money-grabber remembered the rights of his brothers; had the pretty girl been kind and sweet and gracious— they would not, could not, ever have been what they became. So the mental state determines the physical state; so the mind makes its body.”

The aim of emotional education should be to aid us in integrating and directing into individually and socially useful channels our diverse and apparently contradictory “reactions,” so as to produce a coherent resultant favorable to the body as a unit and to society as a whole. Psychological, like physical education involves effort, steady application, and capitalization of results under constant reliance upon widely and permanently useful correlations and correspondences. In our emotional life there exists a perennial need of a steadying and directive principle such as good associates and ethics have sought to supply. In the principle of symbiosis there exists the basis of a true emotional directive and the primordia of a true system of ethics.

The goal sought must sufficiently appeal to the individual to arouse a lively interaction between his emotions and the goal and give rise to an emotional attachment leading to further developments. If the emotional attachment is to be fruitful in lasting good results, it must fulfill the requisite condition of wide bionomic serviceability, which alone can supply the needed support and sanction. In the absence of these, how can the emotional attachment resist the disintegrating influences of temptations to less viable purposes, even to degeneration. Resistance to inferior emotional attachments is as essential as resistance to inferior physical habits, if health is to be maintained. The individual who can bury himself in some worthy cause, some cause that is bigger than he is, and devote his energies and efforts to this cause is doubly safeguarded against emotional overirritation. The over-selfish person who works for nothing save himself is doomed to emotional destruction.

XXII. Care of the Orifices of the Body

GARGLING THE THROAT IS VODOOISM

VAGINAL DOUCHES

THE HEALTHY MAN

The manufacturers of a certain candy commonly employed to perfume the breath, received a letter from a young lady, who explained that she does not “carry a mouth wash with her” and “no matter how strong a breath purifier may be, its effectiveness quickly wears off—and the likelihood of an offensive breath is always present.” She had made the pleasing discovery that the candy overcomes bad breath and thinks it wise to carry a packet in her purse.

The manufacturers of the candy, in making the letter public, ask: “Does the modern girl’s reasoning not appeal to you?” Of course it is not modern and it is not reasoning; it was merely an expression of an old habit man has fallen into—namely, that of covering up or hiding an evil and imagining it is remedied thereby. Man puts a clothes pin on his nose and declares the air to be purified. He perfumes his breath and gives no attention to the causes of foul breath.

A physician, in discussing impotency in men, told about a lady who consulted him about her condition. The odor from her body was so offensive that it destroyed all desire in her husband so that he avoided her. The physician had her to perfume her night clothes and bed clothes. The body odor and ill health back of it remained; but, having been successfully camouflaged, it could be ignored.

Few people realize how much time and money they spend trying to cover up evidences of impaired health. They cover up the bad odors emanating from their bodies and imagine they are cleansed thereby. Breath deodorants and perfumes to cover up or hide halitosis or bad breath, are beautiful examples of the innate stupidity of man. Not that we object to perfumes, we enjoy them; but to cover or hide the foul breath that issues from the mouths of most of the population of this country is not to remedy the condition that is responsible for it.

A healthy breath is sweet, like that of the kine; it has no bad odor to it. It is a real delight to the sense of smell. An offensive breath is an evidence of abnormality. It is not merely that there is decaying food in the mouth, for the healthy mouth is self-cleansing and will not permit food to decay therein. Unless one has eaten onion, or garlic, or leek, or chive, the breath should be a delight to the olfactory nerves of others.

Between the delightful breath of a truly healthy man and the very offensive odor of the breath of a sick man there are all the degrees of halitosis we meet with hourly.

Bad breath may be due to a filthy mouth, gastro-intestinal decomposition, catarrh, lung “disease,” or to almost any “disease” and to tobacco. The breath from a habitual smoker smells very much like the steam from a wet hen roost on a hot summer’s day. It is about the most offensive of all breath smells.

There can be no question that the oral cavity, the same as every other cavity of the body, is protected by the secretions that bathe it. If we see a man walking on crutches we know that he is crippled. Likewise, when we see a man who finds it necessary to remove the food and “other deposits” that “collect” around the teeth, we may be sure that this necessity arises out of an imperfectly functioning organism. No healthy mouth and digestive tract requires any artificial cleansing. An impaired mouth and digestive tract should be restored to health by removing the causes of the impairment. We should not be content to go on forever on the crutches.

GARGLING THE THROAT IS VODOOISM

Thirty-three years ago I began to condemn the popular practice, originated and promoted by the medical profession, of gargling the throat both in states of health and in states of disease. During the whole of the intervening period I have condemned the practice and have advised my patients to discontinue it. I have condemned it in public lectures and in my writings. My own objections to the practice grew out of the following considerations:

1. I saw in it just another magic practice. It was, as I have often said, part of the “doctoring” habit.
2. Using it on myself and on my patients, I could detect no evidence that it accomplished any good.
3. It is a mere surface measure that can have no influence upon the underlying pathology. It is like washing the forehead to remedy headache, or blowing the nose to remedy a cold.
4. Many throat conditions in which it is employed are so far down in the throat that it is impossible to reach them by gargling. It is impossible to gargle deep down in the throat.
5. It is common to use drugs in gargling and I disapproved of their use. Some of them, indeed, are strong enough to do considerable damage to the tissues of the throat.
6. The use of lemon juice, pineapple juice, and similar juices, while avoiding the harmfulness of the drugs, can give no real benefit.
7. Whether drugs or juices are employed, they are intended to destroy germs as

much as to cleanse the throat. The gargling practice grew out of the fallacies of the germ theory. I could find no logic in this practice. Any germs the gargle could reach, even if these beings were harmful, would be outside the tissues and doing no harm.

8. Some conditions of the throat are actually aggravated by the gargle. The activity that is occasioned by the process is injurious to parts that should be at rest.

9. Perhaps most important of all. gargling the throat does not in any way remove the cause of trouble.

10. While it may cleanse part of the surface of the throat, this lasts but a few seconds, when the excretions of the throat reproduce the prior condition.

Old superstitions die hard. Wide-spread practices have nine lives like the proverbial cat. Many patients would continue to gargle their throat despite my advice. The practice simply had to have some value. "Dr. Shelton is too radical. He wants to deprive us of all our pet superstitions. He does not want us to do anything. He is too insistent upon his 'do nothing' philosophy." It is interesting to note what physicians have discovered by their tests of this practice. The following resume of their findings was published a few years ago:

"In order to determine the therapeutic value of gargling, the tonsils of a patient suffering with angina were touched with methylene-blue, and the patient gargled with clear water immediately afterward—the water came out untinged. In some experiments the water issued slightly colored. When the tonsils, the soft palate and a part of the tongue were powdered with flour, and the patient gargled with an iodine-glycerine solution, a blue color developed only on the tongue and velum, not on the tonsils. Sometimes a person is found that has the ability to so gargle that the gargling fluid reaches parts behind the anterior pillars of the fauces; such skill, however is rare. Gargling in throat affections has the disadvantage that it puts into action the very parts that should be at rest. Instead of gargling, direct applications should be used without rubbing. The surface should be merely touched."— *Saenger, Munch Med. Woch.*

Direct applications of drugs to the tonsils and other structures of the throat are objectionable to the *Hygienist* for the same reason that the use of drugs in any other manner and in any part of the body is objectionable. We reject all forms of drugging. We condemn all efforts to remedy disease that do not correct or remove its cause or causes. We are opposed to the use of all poisonous substances in an effort to produce health.

VAGINAL DOUCHES

Every man who has had extensive experience in the care of women knows that the healthy vagina is at all times sweet and clean, with a pleasant rather than an objectionable odor. It requires no douching to keep it in an excellent and savory condition. Nature has not neglected the vagina of women any more than she has neglected the vagina of females of the lower animals. Just as the lower animals do not need the so-called “feminine hygiene” (this phrase is often nothing more than a camouflage for a contraceptive) so, the healthy woman does not require it. On the contrary, by leaving the vagina dry and irritated, the douche may prove to be distinctly injurious. This is especially likely to prove true if antiseptic douches are employed. The healthy vagina does not need frequent bathing. It is self-cleansing.

The stench from the vagina of the diseased woman is often so vile that the examiner needs a gas mask. This is especially so where there is cancer or tumor. But no amount of local “hygiene” can ever do more than provide a few minutes relief from such a condition. Not until she is restored to health does she become free of the odor. Douching the vagina is similar to douching the nose, the ears, throat, taking enemas, gastric lavages, etc. There is no more reason for regular douching of the vagina than there is for regularly irrigating the bladder or washing out the stomach. Primitive women and, for that matter, all women until very recently, got along very well without all of this meddling with the vaginal canal. The womb and vagina are normally aseptic and self-cleansing. The common practice of douching does not even scratch the surface of abnormal conditions. It washes away most of the secretion and lessens the stench for a brief time, but remedies nothing.

THE HEALTHY MAN

A truly healthy man is a clean being, internally. All of his excreta are inoffensive. The sweat from his body does not smell offensively. The discharge from his bowels has no offensive odor. His urine is not offensive. Offensive excreta are evidences of wrong food, wrong drink, or lowered function and “disease.” We do not get rid of such conditions by camouflaging them with perfumes, deodorants, etc.

Bam yards are tolerable to human and animal senses, but open depots of human excreta are offensive alike to man and animals. This is due to the differences in the digestive and self-cleansing powers of a healthy animal and those of a diseased man. The discharge from the bowels should be odorless, aseptic (non poisonous) and should take on no odor upon standing, just as is true of the excreta of animals. Reinheimer says: “Between inoffensive excreta and such as are offensive and putrescent there may be said to exist a gamut of disease, enough to occupy, year in,

year out, an army of thirty thousand (in Britain) doctors, even in a comparatively small country.”

Foul odors associated with the feces indicate lessened digestive powers, impaired secretion, and decomposition of the food. The healthy digestive tract is clean and aseptic at all times. No fermentation occurs in it because normal secretions prevent this. But the more impaired are the powers of life, the more fermentation takes place in the digestive tract and the worse is the odor of gases and solids excreted from the bowels. This same is true of the odor of the sweat, urine and breath. These latter, from the body of a sick man or woman are at times almost unendurable. I have often wished for a gas mask while attending a sick person because of the odor of the body and breath. The more decomposition that goes on in the intestines, the greater and more offensive will be the odors from the excreta of the body. The more meat and eggs, cheese, beans, peas, bread, potatoes, etc., one eats under such conditions of impaired function, the more offensive will be these odors.

If offensive odors come from your body, either from the mouth, kidneys, bowels, or skin you are not enjoying the high degree of health that you are capable of enjoying. Your mode of living is not what it should be. You are filthy inside. If the odor is very bad it indicates that you are rotten inside. By these tokens you may be your own private judge.

Every organ in man's body acts automatically and to its own and the body's best interests. Every opening or cavity of the body which opens upon the outside world is self-cleansing. The eyes are self-cleansing. The nose, mouth, ears, bowels, vagina, etc., are each and all self-cleansing. The normal secretions of all the cavities and orifices of the body are antiseptic and the normal condition of all these cavities and orifices is aseptic.

A healthy mouth is a clean mouth. A healthy alimentary canal is a clean canal. It is health that produces a clean canal and not a clean canal that produces health. These organs are supplied with an adequate means of cleansing themselves and it is astonishing with what promptness and thoroughness they do their work when they have sufficient power. When enervation has impaired secretion and nutrition, so that there is a depravation of the secretions of the intestines and bowels, then these cavities may become septic. Bacterial decomposition sets in and poisons are generated.

We are frequently told today that a “dirty mouth causes disease,” just as we are told that “constipation is the cause of ninety-five percent of the diseases from which man suffers.” Thus we find people trying to preserve and improve their health by washing out the mouth, spraying the nose, gargling the throat, douching the vagina

and enemizing the colon. If they are constipated, they blame the constipation for their ill health, instead of blaming the impairment of their health for the constipation. This leads them to try to improve their health by using cathartics and laxatives to force their bowels to act, instead of overcoming their constipation by improving their health. Constipation is an effect, a symptom—they regard it as a cause. If they have a filthy mouth, they regard this as the cause of their ill health, instead of the ill health as the cause of the filthy mouth. A healthy mouth is a clean mouth. All of the orifices and cavities of man's body are sweet and clean so long as they are in a state of health. None of the excretions of man's body are offensive if he is truly healthy. If the sweat from your body smells offensively it is an evidence of impaired health. If your breath is offensive instead of being sweet, you are sick. If your mouth is dirty, your health is impaired.

Do not make the mistake of covering up the odors and imagining that you are cleansed thereby. The living body is self-cleansing and if you will reform your mode of living and conform to the laws of life, your body will be sweet and clean inside and out. But don't persist in your habit of getting the cart before the horse. An unclean mouth is not the cause of disease. It is an effect a symptom. You don't improve your health by scrubbing your teeth, rinsing your mouth, and gargling your throat. These remedy nothing. Good health is the best mouth wash, the best tooth brush, the best laxative, and the best deodorant. Get health first and all these things will be added unto you.

XXIII. Care of the Teeth

The increasing decay of man's teeth is only one of the many evidences of his physical deterioration and is but a part of his general decay. Instead of finding sound teeth in old age today, we find decayed teeth in childhood and poor teeth even in infancy. Indeed, the teeth of our children are often defective and unsound when they erupt. More and more the dental professions are being called upon to care for the teeth of our children. Dental caries (decay of the teeth), pyorrhea and other troubles with teeth and gums are rapidly increasing.

Our children enter kindergarten with their mouths a wreck. This condition of affairs is worse in some countries than in others. The United States and Britain have the worst teeth in the world. These nations also use the most tooth brushes and tooth washes. They have the greatest number of dentists. If anything can prove that modern dentistry is a failure, in as far as the prevention of dental troubles is concerned, this fact, that the two nations of the world who apply modern dental methods most are the ones who have the most troubles, should do so.

Italy has far better teeth than either the United States or England, and uses the tooth brush far less. European peasants usually have good sound teeth, which last throughout life, while their children born in this country have poor teeth.

If we carry our inquiry still further we find that, as a general rule, the less advanced in civilization a people, the better teeth they have. In the museum of Natural History, in Washington, D. C., is a collection of Indian skulls, representing all ages of life, picked up on the Pacific Coasts of the two Americas, about 200 years ago. Of the thousands of teeth in these skulls, only one shows signs of dental caries.

George Catlin once described the beauties of the Indian's teeth, their soundness, uniformity, and durability. He described those also which he saw in the skulls of dead Indians. He tells us in a later book that not long after he published this description, the white man came with his forceps and that these teeth that had once chewed Buffalo flesh on the plains, were chewing bread for their white owners. This was before we had learned to make artificial teeth.

It is estimated that ninety percent of the population of America suffer at one time or another from tooth decay. Contrast this estimate with the following statement of N. July, in his *Man Before Metals*: "The Primitive European races shared an advantage still possessed by savage American tribes in that their teeth were sometimes worn away even to the root without decaying. At least this has been observed to be the case in the caves of France and Belgium. However, there are many exceptions to this rule."

The “Old Man of Cro-magnon” presented the same evidence of long life and teeth equally as enduring, and Prof. Dawson remarks, in commenting thereon, that this “is a character often observed in rude people of modern times.”

While it is not uncommon to see dental caries in 90 percent of the population in civilized tribes, so-called primitive races living, as they do, on unrefined foods, have 1 to 4 percent caries. Even the Eskimo, on his carnivorous diet, which is obviously deficient in calcium and vitamins, has dental caries in only 20.8 per cent of cases.

So-called primitive people everywhere have good sound teeth. This same fact is observed throughout the animal kingdom. The teeth of wild animals are sound and strong and last throughout life. Should one of them break a tooth in an accident, the tooth does not decay. Explorers have found that “primitive” people who mutilate their teeth by chipping parts of them away do not suffer with tooth decay, where they live on a “primitive” diet.

Primitive people and wild animals do not brush their teeth and do not fill their mouths with the lather of medicated soaps (tooth pastes), as we do. But they have clean teeth and clean mouths. “As clean as a hound’s tooth” expresses a literal fact, and one that applies not merely to dogs but to the whole animal world, and which should apply to man. Indeed, it does apply to so-called primitive peoples, and these peoples are no more primitive than we are.

The teeth are integral parts of the body and do not stand apart from it as separate entities. They are parts of the body’s bony system, are merely pieces of highly specialized bone, and partake of the infirmities of the body as a whole. A carious tooth is not to be regarded as a local disease unrelated to the general condition of the body, but as a local effect of far-reaching general or systemic causes, which causes affect the body as a whole.

Indeed, the processes which can be shown experimentally, in animals to destroy and distort the teeth, are known to injure many other parts of the body—perhaps all parts more or less. Diet-deficiency for instance, is not confined in its effects, to the teeth. Experimenters record cases where not merely the teeth, but the jaw bone and even the skull itself are carious. In fact they tell us that while such skulls are never developed on a normal diet, which diet also preserves the teeth, carious skulls are very common on deficient diets. Decay of the teeth is but a part of the universal decay of the body, all of this decay arising out of the same causes. Not merely the bones, but the soft tissues, as well, partake in this deterioration. The absurdity of the present fad for extracting abscessed or carious teeth to remedy various disease states should be apparent to all. The deterioration of the teeth is not the cause of the deterioration elsewhere, but all local evidences of decay are concomitant and

successive effects of a common basic cause.

Dr. Howe says: “There can be little doubt that the pathology seen in the mouth is indicative of a pathological condition general throughout the body, but perhaps not so easily recognized elsewhere. Such conditions may cause neuritis, joint inflammations, and other symptoms from apparently obscure causes.”

These things being true, and they are, in preserving the teeth you are assuring good general health; or, to put this more correctly, in building up positive health, you are also preserving your teeth. Likewise, that diet that is best for the teeth of the unborn child is best both for the mother herself, and for the other tissues of the developing fetus. This puts the whole matter of health of mother and child and the integrity of the child’s teeth on a single, workable basis—on a basis of Natural Hygiene. Health is the basis of good teeth.

The modern dental slogan, so much used in advertising dentrifices and tooth brushes, that “a clean tooth never decays,” is a fallacy and has been repudiated by the man who coined it. No amount of scrubbing and polishing the teeth will prevent them from decaying. The evidence that this is so is all around us. In this connection, it is worthy our careful consideration that *a healthy mouth is a clean mouth; an unhealthy mouth cannot be kept clean*. Some people find that their teeth can be kept clean by brushing them once a week. Some are forced to brush them twice a week, while others cannot keep them clean if they brush them several times a day. These differences represent differences in the healthy and unhealthy conditions of the mouth of the people.

Dr. Percy Howe, of the Forsythe Dental Laboratories, Harvard University, says in a series of articles in the *Dental Digest*, 1927: “Among my friends in the dental profession are three prominent periodontists who are busy every working minute keeping somebody’s teeth clean and healthy. One man’s mouth stays clean if he brushes it once a week. The second needs to brush his twice a week. The third can hardly keep his mouth clean by frequent daily care. Do these conditions exhibit different levels of the physiological threshold?”

Since they are parts of the body, the teeth are affected by the general health and by anything and everything that improves or that impairs health.

Diet: Some years ago I coined the slogan: *A well-nourished tooth never decays*. This slogan does not readily lend itself to use in exploiting some commercial product and has never become popular. Nutrition is more than a matter of diet, but the food we eat is perhaps the largest single factor in determining the soundness of our teeth. This will be fully discussed in Volume 2. Suffice it to say at this point that fresh fruits and green leafy vegetables are the best foods to build and preserve the teeth.

Sunshine: The office of sunshine in assuring good bone development is well established and will be covered in Volume 3 of this series. The teeth are bones, and like other bones, are improved by the increased calcium-phosphorous assimilation occasioned by sunshine and are impaired by the decreased calcium-phosphorous assimilation resulting from a lack of sunshine. Sun bathing should do much to build and preserve good teeth.

Exercise: Not only does exercise of the teeth benefit them; but exercise of the whole body does likewise. They are improved by the general improvement in nutrition that flows from bodily exercise.

Most of us tend to eat soft, mushy foods—soups, gruels, purees, etc.—and foods requiring very little chewing. The teeth are denied their normal exercise and as a consequence, nutrition is withdrawn from them. Children (after the age of two) should especially be given foods that require vigorous chewing.

Drugs: There are no drugs which benefit the teeth in any manner, but there are many of them which injure the teeth and not the teeth only, but other bones and tissues of the body. It may be said in a general way, that all drugs, serums and vaccines either directly or indirectly injure the teeth. Injury comes from lowering the general health standard of the body and impairing nutrition.

Direct injury comes from those drugs which have a directly destructive effect upon the bones and teeth. There are many of these such as, mercury, potassium, lead, iron, etc.

Miscellaneous: Under this head I will include, on the one hand, all those factors which enervate the body and thus result in toxemia and perverted nutrition and, on the other hand, all those factors which build up the body. Factors which disturb nutrition, injure the teeth. Factors which improve nutrition improve the teeth. I shall not discuss these in detail here.

Tooth decay : As previously pointed out, faulty diet is probably the biggest single factor in producing decay of the teeth; but as Prof. McCollum of Johns Hopkins declares: "It is not possible at this time to name any one deficiency which specifically causes dental or oral disease; it would appear to be that any slight variations in the American diet, which always so dangerously approaches the level of dietary deficiency, might become active to start decay at any period of lowered resistance or of physical or nervous distress."

This is equivalent to saying that the teeth do not decay except as a result of a general systemic derangement and that there are many and varied causes for this. Fillings, caps, crowns, and the mechanical appliances used to straighten crooked teeth are all aids to tooth decay.

The mouth is not a separate part of the body but a very important part of the whole. We know that the teeth cannot be normally calcified and developed in proper relationship unless the individual receives the right material for growth and development.

The teeth are protected by the secretions that bathe them. But these secretions cannot be normal in the sick or “diseased” individual. To repair the teeth, as the dentist docs, and to leave uncorrected the conditions that caused the first decay, can only mean that more decay will occur. His “repair” lasts but a short time. Local dental or medical treatment cannot restore the mouth and its secretions to normal condition.

Many things are accused of causing tooth decay which probably have nothing to do with the decay at all. For instance, crooked or mal-posed teeth, crowded teeth, etc., are frequently included among the causes or probable causes of dental decay. Yet, it seems to me that each one of these things is an evidence of faulty development due to faulty nutrition. Faulty nutrition has in most such cases, at least, resulted in a faulty tooth structure and such a tooth is predisposed to caries and’ decay. Indeed, a soft pre-tooth structure is often laid down in the jaw of such cases before birth, due to nutritional perversions of the pregnant mother. Such tooth decay easily, both the temporary and permanent teeth being injured by faulty calcification.

Now, I know, of course, that it is explained that such teeth are not easily kept clean and that germs congregate between them and start the work of decay. Bacteria of all kinds, the acid-forming bacteria as well as other varieties, are found in the mouth of every one regardless of the condition of the teeth. I place no value on the notion that tooth decay is due to germs.

Thumb-sucking and the sucking of nipples or pacifiers is also frequently accused of causing malposed teeth and, ultimately, pyorrhea and caries. Such statements, I believe to be unfounded and based on ignorance of the real causes of dental maldevelopment.

The Tooth Brush: The present tooth brushing insanity was organized some years ago by a company which manufactured and sold tooth brushes, tooth pastes, toilet articles, etc. They conceived of a plan to increase their profits by inducing everyone to brush their teeth several times a day. Part of this plan consisted in getting dentists into the schools of the land to examine the teeth and recommend the tooth paste of this particular company. At first the scheme failed, but after enough newspaper publicity and lengthy “discussions” the School Boards consented to let the dentists go to work. The ultimate success of the scheme was greater than any member of the manufacturing company had ever dreamed of, even in his wildest moments. Today the dentists are not only in the schools, they are being paid out of public funds for the

work of drumming up trade for dentists and tooth brush manufacturers. "Credits" are given to those children who possess and vigorously use tooth brushes, while the tooth-brush drill is a regular feature in many schools.

We have been taught that tooth decay is due to germs and that if our teeth are properly scrubbed and cleansed and are looked over periodically by the dentist, they will not decay. We have been told that the child's teeth must be brushed and brushed until we wear all the enamel away, if we would preserve its teeth. We have tried these methods faithfully for years now, we have bought tooth brushes of all kinds and worn them out on the teeth of our children. We have bought and used the tooth-pastes and tooth-powders. We have washed their little mouths with antiseptics. We have carried them to the dentists regularly for examinations.

So faithfully have we carried out this program, that our teeth and those of our children have polished horizontal grooves in them, these grooves often reaching down to and exposing the deeper layers of the dentin even the "secondary dentin." The gums have receded and are hypertrophied and hyperemic; their gingival borders have been ploughed away, and the teeth are sensitive. In spite of all this abuse so lavishly heaped upon their teeth, or is it partly because of it, our children's teeth are decayed and they suffer with caries, pyorrhea and trench mouth.

We have seen the manufacturers of tooth-pastes and tooth brushes grow rich; we have seen the dentists multiply like rabbits; we have seen the dental profession multiply itself into a number of professions or specialties. But the teeth of our children are worse than ever and their condition grows worse year by year.

At the present time no one dares question the value of this silly practice. Everyone advises and endorses the tooth brush and the soaps that are used on the teeth. It is rank heresy to dispute their value.

Dr. Oswald says, *Physical Education*, p. 233; "I never could get myself to believe in the natural necessity of a tooth-brush. The African nations, the Hindoos, the natives of Southern Europe, the South-Sea Islanders, the Arabs, the South American Vegetarians, in short, three-fourths of our fellow-men, besides our next relatives, the frugivorous animals, have splendid teeth without sozodont. I really believe that ours decay from sheer disuse, the boarding-house homo lives chiefly on pap.* An artificial dentrifice will certainly keep the teeth white, but that does not prevent their premature decay; disuse gradually softens their substances. I do not say that a soft tooth-brush and such dentrifices as oatmeal or burned arrow-root can do any harm, but, for sanitary purposes, such precautions must be supplemented by dental exercise."

The tooth-brushing fad was the logical outgrowth of the absurdities and vagaries

of the germ theory. Tooth decay was attributed to the action of bacteria and their acid products upon the teeth. In recounting his experiments on monkeys, in which dental caries was produced by a deficient diet and incidentally referring to the lactic acid theory of tooth decay, Dr. Howe says: “before we examine the effects of vitamin C deficiencies upon the teeth of monkeys, let me remind you that all of our efforts to affect these teeth by fermentation in the mouth for long periods of time by the feeding and injection of micro-organisms associated with caries have been unavailing so long as the diet was normal.”

Experiments by Drs. Howe and Hatch (1917) in America, and by Sir James McIntosh, Warwich James and Lazarus-Harlow working together in England, in trying to produce dental caries by using acid forming bacteria, all resulted negatively. Dr. Howe says that: “So long as the diet is normal it has been found impossible to cause dental caries or pyorrhea by maintaining fermentation in the mouth or by feeding or injecting the bacteria believed to be most actively associated with dental caries.”

We have been building on the sand. We have been listening to the siren song of commercialism. The boys with the soft white hands have been building up their trades but we have not saved our teeth nor those of our children.

Tooth-Brush Disease, the dentists claim, is due to improper use of the tooth brush. Both the direction of brushing and the amount of force applied are regarded as factors in its production. Dentists say, in describing it:

“It is characterized by a recession of the gum tissue over the tooth surfaces most exposed to the brush, second by the presence of highly-polished horizontal grooves of varying depths in the exposed surfaces of the teeth, and third by the presence of hyperemic or hypertrophied gum tissue in the interdental spaces.”

The friction produced often wears away the enamel until the deeper layers of dentin are exposed. Recession of the gums, exposure of the semetum, polished horizontal grooves, hyperemic and hypertrophied gum tissue, sensitive teeth, ploughing away of the gingival borders are all undesirable results of vigorous brushing, and abrasive and antiseptic dentrifices. These all tend to break down the teeth and gums and produce pyorrhea, trench mouth, caries and loss of teeth.

The prevention is: *Avoid the tooth brush and dentrifices*. This condition is only partially remediable, once it exists. The remedy is: *Remove the causes*.

XXIV. Care of the Colon

It may be doubted whether any other organ in man's body is subjected to more abuse and is less understood than the colon. It is a constant object of solicitude and more effort is made to control the function of the colon than of any other organ. It is blamed for more troubles than the teeth, tonsils, appendix, gall-bladder, womb, tubes, and ovaries combined.

Man's colon, like that of other primates, is designed as a reservoir for holding, for a few hours, the residue of fruits, roots, nuts and the indigestible seeds, skins, and fibres of vegetable foodstuffs— materials practically incapable of undergoing fermentation and putrefaction or giving rise to poisonous products of any kind. When man became a meat and egg eater he compelled his colon to deal with the putrescent residue of undigested eggs and flesh highly offensive foods, which, when stored up in his colon, for many hours, become a seething mass of putrefaction.

Digestion takes place almost wholly in the mouth, stomach and small intestine. When the useable nutritional substances have been absorbed from the food which was eaten, the remaining bulk is moved on by the peristaltic, or wave like movement of the small intestine until it reaches the cecum, which is the first section of the colon or large intestine. Here the remaining excess moisture is removed and absorbed and the mass is thereby reduced to its proper consistency. From here it continues on its way by further peristaltic waves, passing from the ascending and transverse to the descending colon where it is retained until such time as the colon wishes to expel its contents.

Bowel action is spontaneous and automatic. It does not require to be forced or artificially regulated any more than does any other function of the body. We meddle with bowel function too much. "But doctor, aren't you going to do anything to make my bowels move?" asked a young lady of me once. I replied: "Your bowels do not require to be made to move any more than your heart needs to be made to beat or your lungs to breathe. The trouble with your bowels now is that they have been made to move too much already." This lady, whose age was twenty, had taken laxatives, cathartics and enemas every day of her life from infancy. I let her wait upon nature. On the thirteenth day her bowels moved, and in a few days they were moving twice a day on two meals a day. This continued for several years, even continuing through the entire length of two pregnancies.

Bowels act when there is necessity for action. Even when there is obstruction, they throw their contents out through the mouth. If an enema or drug is given to the "constipated" and they act, this proves that power of action was present. The very

fact that they act when an artificial necessity of action is produced is proof that they will act when a natural necessity for action exists; that power and the laws which sway bowel function may safely be left to their own way. If the power of action is lacking, nothing can make them act.

A fact, unknown, to physicians and laymen alike, is that all the functions of the body are performed with as much promptness, regularity, and efficiency as, under existing circumstances, is compatible with the safety and highest welfare of the body. In “disease” and in “health,” that is, so long as life lasts, every organ and tissue of the body is at its post, ready and disposed to perform its functions, to the full extent of its abilities. They do good work when they have the power to do so, and when lacking in power to produce a perfect work, must do the best they can.

There are many ways of forcing increased action in debilitated organs for a brief period, providing there is enough power in reserve to produce the action, but these things always and necessarily diminish the power of that action and do so in precisely the degree to which they accelerate the action. The increase of action is occasioned by the extra expenditure of power called out, not supplied, by the compulsory process and therefore the quantity of power is diminished by this amount. The power is wanted for other purposes and will be used more judiciously and advantageously by the undisturbed laws of appropriation, and distribution in the living system.

I do not favor the employment of forcing measures of any kind in dealing with the colon. No harm comes from allowing the colon to go one or a few days without moving. There are times when the colon needs and takes a rest and no harm results from this. Bulk, roughage, irritation, excess water, etc.—these are all evil in their general tendency and all ignore causes. Abnormal bowel action is to be remedied by removing the causes, not by treating the colon.

Dr. Page, who opposed the employment of laxatives, cathartics, enemas, laxative foods, etc., for the purpose of “curing constipation,” saying that if there has been no action for two, three or even four days, it need occasion no alarm, and the novice will be surprised to see how natural a movement will finally reward his or her patience in awaiting her call, instead of badgering her into unusual activity, declares: “A good rule for many who suffer tortures of mind because of constipation would be: mind your own business and let your bowels mind theirs. Strive not to have movements, but rather to deserve them. That is, attend to the general health by living hygienically, and the bowels, if given regular opportunity, move when there is anything to move for.”

Dr. E. R. Moras, says in *Autology and Autopalhy* that, “as autology teaches, there is no divine or natural law that says men and women must have a passage every day.

In fact, if people ate and drank only what and only as much as they need, and properly chewed their foods, their bowels would surely not move oftener than two or three times a week, and the ‘passage’ would be very small indeed. That is health.

“So, don’t live for your daily passage.’ Live for your brain and your brain will see that your bowels mind their business.”

He advises that if the bowels fail to move in the morning “do not fret or fidget, but simply go along about your business, as if your bowels had moved.” If they do not move during the day, or in the evening he advises, “don’t bother your head about it, for you haven’t really failed; you’ve just simply got started on the right way. Attend to your duties or pleasures and go to sleep as if your bowels had operated. Do the very same thing the following day, and every day—and let me tell you this: that with the proper eating, drinking and walking, nine times in ten, your constipation will be cured in less than ten days. Be patient a bit, and use some of your common sense.”

How futile to advice those minds that dwell in their colons to be patient! Or to use common sense! They are very impatient and use enemas, or oil, or agar or some patent medicine. They live for their passage and are miserable without it. To them there is a natural law—one that operates only by the aid of enemas or oil or agar, or psyllium seed—which declares that they must have one or two, or three or five movements a day. Common sense is the last thing in the world they employ.

In 1929 I was consulted by a gentleman (age 60) who stated that he had been constipated all of his life. He goes for three days to a week from one bowel movement to another and has done this all his life. But he has never worried about it and has made no effort to *cure* the condition. He has not taken pills or laxatives of any kind and has not employed the enema. He was very active and strong for one of his age and appeared at least twenty years younger than the average man of sixty. He was actually doing work that many younger men would balk at.

Somewhere in his *Lectures on the Science of Human Life*, Sylvester Graham recounted a case, taken from the medical literature of the time, of an English general who did not have a bowel movement for a period of about 30 years—vomiting the undigested residue of his meal a few hours after eating each day. In my own practice I have seen hundreds of patients grow daily better while waiting for from three to fifty-three days for their bowel to move. Dr. Jennings, Dr. Page, Dr. Claunch, and others have had similar experiences.

T. Swann Harding says: “I know a robust old lady in the very lively eighties and she never had more than one bowel movement a week. Finally I can cite a medical case of a man who lived a useful life during six months whereas he had not one bowel movement the entire time. Another comes to mind of a young girl who had no

normal bowel movement for months and none at all for weeks—a cause for surgery—yet her complexion was unblemished and beautiful! Were these young people constipated? Were they full of poison? What right had they to live and be happy?”

Dr. Page says: “Tanner had no movement during his fast (40 days); Griscomb’s experience was similiar, and Connolly, the consumptive who fasted forty-three days, had no movement for three weeks.”

In the January 1929 issue of *Health for All* (England), a gentleman tells of his recovery from constipation of long standing. He says that “I have always been told that I must be very healthy because I have always had a very clear complexion. Isn’t this odd on the face of the above.” He, with thousands of others, thinks it odd that he should have a clear complexion all the time and be constipated for years. To me there is nothing odd about it. Indeed, I see such cases so often that I wonder where and how the idea started that constipation produces pimples and blotchy complexions.

Dr. Richard C. Cabot says: “The effects of constipation vary enormously. In certain people there are no effects. People may go without a bowel movement for weeks without any ill effects. It is hard to believe, but it is true. On the other hand, there are many people who, if they skip a single day, feel headaches and dull, dragging tire. I do not know how to explain these differences. A good many serious diseases or symptoms are attributed, quite falsely, I think, to constipation. I do not think there is any reason to suppose that it has any serious effect of any kind.”

Dr. Cabot confesses his inability to explain the differences in different people of what, on the surface, appear to be the effects of constipation. Perhaps the headache, dullness and dragging tire that accompany constipation in some cases are not due to constipation. I hold that they are the results of the same cause that produces the constipation. In other words, the headache, dullness, dragging tire and the constipation are concomitant effects of a common cause. The constipation is a part of the “disease” and not its cause. It is a symptom, an effect, a result. Constipation is perfectly harmless in itself. It is the thing that constipation stands for that is harmful. Not the constipation, but its causes, should interest us.

My own view of the alleged absorption of toxins from the colon has been publicised for years. It is my contention that the lining membrane of the colon, like that of the bladder, is specialized to prevent absorption. Urine in the bladder is in a liquid state, yet it may remain in the bladder for hours without being absorbed. Certainly, then, the semi-solid contents of the colon are not in any danger of being absorbed. The body is not engaged in absorbing its own excretions, but in voiding them.

A distinction must be made between excretion or elimination and voiding.

Elimination is the process of taking waste from the blood. Urine stored in the bladder has already been eliminated. The kidneys have already removed this from the blood—it is out of the body. It is outside of and no longer between the two divisions of the body's investing membrane. It requires only to be voided. This is plain enough and commonly recognized. But in the case of the colon we constantly mistake voiding for elimination. Matter that is in the colon, whether composed of food residue or waste matter excreted by the walls of the colon, is outside of the body—it requires only to be voided, not eliminated. *Bowel action is not elimination.* The walls of the colon excrete matter from the blood—they do not secrete matter into the blood. They form a one-way “street” and do not permit the much talked of absorption of poisons.

The more physiologists investigate the matter the more evidence they turn up that putrefactive toxins are prevented from entering the circulation by the barrier offered by the bowel wall itself. Even the wall of the small intestine, specialized as it is, for absorption, permits but small quantities of such toxins to enter the circulation. The efficiency of the liver in destroying these toxins when they do get into the circulation is also a protection of the body, although the physiologist says of *histamine*, what may be true of all other products of decomposition, that, “the chief protection against the toxic effects of histamine is apparently in the bowel wall itself.”

It has not yet been determined what causes death in obstruction of the bowels. A number of theories have been offered to account for death, but none of them have stood the test. That the patient dies is well known, but why? It would seem, at first glance, that toxic absorption would occur under this condition more rapidly than under other conditions and that this would account for death, but such is not the case. I suggest that the cause of death will ultimately be found in the struggles of the body to dislodge the obstruction. The collapse of function represented by the state of collapse in which these patients soon slip is, in all probability, due to the violence of the struggle to remove the obstruction.

Water absorption in the colon takes place in the coecum and ascending colon. This is to say, it is absorbed from the material that is emptied out of the small intestine before it has had time to undergo change. Water absorption when enemas are given does not seem to occur, even when the water is retained for long periods. In constipation the stools are dry and in this state there is nothing to be absorbed. Absorption, if it is to take place should do so in diarrhea, but it is well established that it does not do so in this trouble.

It has been shown that overdistention of the rectum with absorbent cotton will produce practically all of the symptoms commonly associated with constipation. Headache accompanying constipation thus seems to be due, not to the much talked of

autointoxication, but to pressure on the rectum—the headache being a so-called *reflex* pain. An enema will give immediate relief from such headache, not because it removes any toxins from the circulation, but because the bowel movement thus occasioned removes the pressure from the rectum.

The physiologists Best and Taylor, after reviewing much of the evidence against the bowel absorption theory, say: “There seems little doubt that toxic products of the bacterial flora of the large intestine are prevented from entering the systemic circulation in amounts that are pathologically significant.” This simply means that if any toxins do enter the blood from the colon, they are received by the blood in such minute quantities that they are quickly destroyed by the liver and eliminated by the kidneys and do no harm.

They also say that “the immunity of the body to autointoxication applies only to the large intestine. The small intestine is not equipped in the same degree to resist the passage of toxic products into the blood stream.” This was my conclusion reached years before the physiologists began to stress it. That they do resist the entrance of toxins into the blood is certain, that they are not as well provided against such toxic absorption as is the colon is what is here stated.

Prof. O. S. Fowler, perhaps the most prominent lay writer on *Hygiene* of the last century, said in his *Science of Life* that every natural function is pleasurable. This should be understood as applying to conscious performance of functions, for man’s sub-conscious functions are not felt, either as pleasure or as pain. When these are normal, there is merely a general feeling of wellbeing, which, is in itself, pleasurable. When Fowler asks, “Why should not labor be a luxury instead of an agony?” he was but extending the principle that enjoyment accompanies the normal performance of all conscious functions to the conscious function of giving birth. He says in his *Human Science* that “happiness is the constitutional and only legitimate product of every organ of the body, every faculty of the mind and every element of our being.” It was his thought that happiness is “the standard scales for weighing and measuring the values, absolute and relative, of all things whatsoever.”

Eating wholesome food, drinking pure water, breathing pure air, seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling, etc., all, in their normal exercise, afford pleasure rather than pain. There is no pain in swallowing by the healthy throat; to a diseased throat swallowing may be very painful; to the tubercular lung, breathing, even of the purest air, may be painful. Micturition, or the voiding of urine, is pleasurable to the healthy urethral tract, it may be very painful to the diseased tract. Pain and discomfort are sure indications that something is not as it should be. If odors are disagreeable, if sounds are harsh and grating, if sensation is painful, if food is acrid and pungent, if activity

is painful, these should warn us that there is something wrong, within or without us. Normal bowel action is no exception to the rule that all conscious functions are normally pleasurable. Difficult and painful defecation is definitely abnormal. A diseased rectum may find it very painful to expel gas, mucus or a few spoonfuls of watery feces; a healthy rectum may pass a large, firm stool with nothing but a pleasurable sensation.

The normal bowel movement, which only empties the rectum, should not consume more than five to ten seconds. No effort should be required; no straining and grunting is necessary. The movement is free and easy and so quickly over that one hardly realizes he has had a movement. It is accompanied with a distinctly pleasurable sensation which Freud seems to have mistaken for a sex thrill. The stools should be free of all odor; should be well formed and neither soft nor hard.

Small ribbon-like stools indicate spasticity of the rectal sphincters. Large hard stools mean delay in emptying, with distention of the rectum. Foul stools represent decomposition. Watery stools mean diarrhea or other abnormality. The color of the stool, though usually yellow, will be determined by the food eaten. Spinach and beets, for instance, both give the stools characteristic colors.

The colon is an integral part of the body. Its function is efficient or not, depending upon the support it receives from the general system. If health is impaired bowel function will be impaired. If health is good, bowel function will be good. We should place the emphasis upon general health—upon wholeness, integrity.

Few people realize how much time and money they really spend trying to cover up evidences of their ill health instead of improving their health. If they are constipated, they blame the constipation for their ill health instead of blaming the impairment of their health for the constipation. This leads them to try to improve their health by using cathartics and laxatives to force their bowel to act, instead of overcoming their constipation by improving their health. Constipation is an effect, a symptom—they regard it as a cause. It is good health that insure daily bowel movements and not daily movements that insure good health. The best rule for dealing with the bowels is to attend to your own business and let the bowels attend to theirs.

XXV. Care of the Feet

The human foot is one of the most marvelously constructed and wonderfully efficient structures in the human body. In spite of its small size and apparent lightness of structure, which are seemingly out of all proportion to the work required of the foot, it serves its functions well, and were it not for the continuous train of abuses to which the foot of modern civilized man is subjected, few* complaints would ever come from this source.

How few of us ever stop to consider the tremendous foot power and accurate co-ordination that are required in dancing, running and jumping! These activities place tremendous stress upon the feet. Many very rapid, varied, delicate and intricate adjustments of bones, ligaments, muscles, tendons and nerves are required in the feet and legs in the dancing of a Hootor or of a Pavlowa. It has been estimated that in one of her major performances, Pavlowa used to cover an actual distance of twenty-five miles. Most of this distance was covered by leaping, pirouetting, balancing, etc., yet in merely walking this distance her feet would be subjected to a total stress of 6,250 tons.

Few of us ever give thought to our feet in terms of service. Perhaps we never think of them at all, unless they are loudly protesting against abuse, except in terms of pegs to hang stylish shoes upon. A brief reference to the structures and movements of the foot will serve to show how marvelous is this little organ.

The skeleton of the foot is made up of twenty-six bones of various sizes and shapes, properly proportioned and nicely adjusted to perform their individual and collective functions, each bone designed for the performance of a certain definite duty.

The “body” of the foot (the heel and instep), which joins with the leg, is made up of seven very irregularly shaped bones. These seven bones are held together by powerful ligaments. This part of the foot, having little motion, is called the “static” portion.

The forepart of the foot with the toes, is formed by nineteen bones; five of them with the instep to form the forepart and with the toes spread out fan-like, forming the spreading surface of the forward part of the foot. This more movable portion of the foot, called the “dynamic” portion, depends chiefly upon the tendons and muscles for its support and motions.

In their positions the twelve tarsal and metatarsal bones of the foot form four arches. Two of these extend lengthwise of the foot and are called longitudinal arches. The outer longitudinal arch normally carries most of the weight of the body in

walking and is called the “weight-bearing” arch. The inner longitudinal arch lends elasticity to one’s tread and is called the “spring” arch.

The other two arches are called transverse arches and, according to their location, posterior transverse arch (just in front of the heel) and anterior transverse arch (just back of the toes).

The principle muscles which move the foot and the individual bones of the foot are the leg muscles. The muscles of the foot itself are concerned principally with the finer movements of the toes. There are several small muscles in the foot, but only two of these aid in preserving the arches of the foot. These two draw the toes together in walking and to a large degree determine the normal positions of the bones of the anterior transverse arch.

The weight of the body is carried largely upon three points in the normal foot, provided it is not encased in shoes that prevent the foot from functioning normally. One of these points is the heel; the other two are, one on each side of the forward portion of the foot, just back of the joints of the first and fifth toes and the bones of the foot.

If the foot is deformed—fallen arches or similar conditions—too much weight is carried by portions of the foot that are not designed to carry it. For instance the heel and one point on the inner side of the foot carry too much weight in fallen arches; or too much weight is carried by the heel and points in the forward portion of the foot.

Even a normal foot encased in a badly fitting shoe will be forced to carry too much weight at the wrong parts of the foot. High heels, for instance throw a great deal of weight upon the tips of the toes, the sides of the forward portion of the foot and even upon the upper surface of the foot.

Abnormal shifting of the weight-carrying points of the foot, whether from deformity or from incorrect shoes, results in much discomfort and serious impairment of the function of the foot. Painful feet are less often due to deformity than to tension and strain, resulting largely from ill-fitting shoes. It is often true that the well-formed foot pains more than the deformed one.

The foot of the savage has very flexible joints, large and strong muscles under his arch and in the leg, although his arch is usually lower than that of the foot of civilized man. When he walks the inner sides of his feet are either parallel to each other or else he “toes in” slightly. When he walks the weight of the body is quickly transferred from the heel through the outer longitudinal arch, to the forward portion of the foot. His toes spread widely and grip the surface upon which he walks. As he lifts his foot at the end of each step, his toes thrust strongly against the earth thus propelling him forward.

Compared to the foot of the savage, that of civilized man is less flexible, has less well developed muscles and, when he walks barefooted, his toes do not spread and grip as much as do those of the savage. The weight of his body comes down suddenly and forcibly upon the heel, is then shifted to the outer border of the foot, and finally upon the toes. When the foot is confined in constricting and deforming shoes the forward portion of the foot does not receive and transfer the weight properly. Walking is awkward and often uncomfortable. This may result in “toeing out” so that at the end of each step, the weight of the body is carried upon the inner side of the foot and the big toe. Since the foot is not designed to carry the weight in this way, the foot deformity already beginning is made worse.

Normally one should “toe” straight ahead, or even slightly in, when walking, as does the savage. “Toeing out” throws unnatural strain upon the inner longitudinal or “spring” arch and tends to break it down. “Toeing out” gives one an awkward gait and shortens the length of his stride. It lessens one’s ability to walk, run and jump.

The feet are parts of the body and their condition depends very largely upon the general health. Pain, inflammation, liability to fatigue, etc., are often due to poor general health and to local abuse of the feet. In this chapter we shall deal only with the local care of the foot.

Exercise: Prolonged inactivity of the feet and legs weakens these structures. Exercise of the feet will aid in strengthening them and in both preventing and remedying foot disorders. Corrective exercises will be given in Vol. IV of this series. In this volume it is intended only to give hygienic exercises.

If we were in the habit of going barefooted or of wearing loose fitting, soft-soled moccasins all of the time, our feet would probably receive all of the exercise they need; but they require and should have more exercise than they receive when we wear even the least harmful of modern shoes.

Walking, running, jumping and climbing give the feet (if bare), all of the exercise needed and these are still the best forms of general exercise for these structures. Shoes and sedentary occupations have created most of the need for devoting special attention to exercises for the feet.

Before approaching the exercises given below the reader will please recall that the most important muscles of the foot are in the leg and not in the foot at all. The purposes of these exercises are (1) to strengthen the muscles and ligaments of the feet and legs and (2) to restore and preserve the normal movements of the bones of the feet.

Exercises for the feet are best taken barefooted or in stockings or in soft slippers. Shoes should not be worn while exercising. The movements should be strenuous

enough to tire the muscles in eight to ten movements. If they can be repeated twenty or more times they will not produce the desired development.

The following exercises will be found to be excellent for those who possess no foot deformity requiring special corrective exercises. These are referred to Vol. IV of *The Hygienic System*.

1. Raise the weight of the body on the toes by lifting the heels as high off the floor as possible. This exercise may be made more effective by placing the balls of the feet on a book or block about two inches thick and then raising on the toes. (See Fig. 8).

2. Stand on one foot, holding the other off the floor, and raise the weight of the body on the toes of one foot. Repeat on the other foot.

3. Jumping on the toes is an excellent exercise to develop the muscles that aid in maintaining the normal anterior transverse arch and which play an important role in giving elasticity, spring and grace to the step. Raise the heels an inch or more from the floor and, holding the knees straight, jump into the air so that the toes are raised off the floor.

After the muscles are strong enough that this exercise can be done ten or twelve times on both feet, it may be executed on one foot at a time.

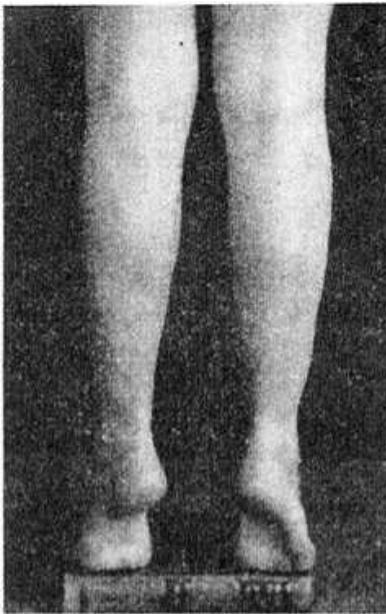


Fig. 8



Fig. 9

4. Stand with the toes together and the heels wide apart, and raise and lower the heels. Raise the heels as high as possible and then make an effort to raise them higher.

5. Stand with the heels together and the toes spread wide apart and raise and lower the heels.

6. Rest the weight of the body on the heels and raise the toes as high as possible. This exercise may be made more effective if the heels are rested on a book or block. (See Fig. 9).

7. Walk on the outer edge of the foot with the inner edge raised from the floor and the toes turned inward as far as possible without too much discomfort. This should be done without shoes.

8. Raise the inner side of the foot as high as possible and then the outer side, allowing the weight of the body to rest on the opposite edge.

9. Turn the heels outward just before the foot is raised from the floor at the end of each step. When the foot is set down in walking it should point straight forward, but when the heel is raised, throwing the weight upon the ball of the foot, the heel should be moved forcibly outward and in the direction you are walking. Although this exercise is more effective without shoes, it may be taken with them.

10. Stand on a book or block of wood about four inches thick so that the forward edge of the block comes just in front of the ankle. Bend the toes downward as far as possible and then raise them as high as possible. Make an extra effort to carry them further at the end of each movement. If, in doing this exercise, a special effort is made to bend the small toes further than the big toe, the movement will aid in

developing the muscles which invert the foot and raise the inner edge.

11. Standing on the same block as described in exercise 10, move the forward portion of the foot in circles. Move the forefoot downward as far as possible, then inward as far as possible, then upward as far as possible, then outward as far as possible, and, finally, back to the starting position. It is well to reverse this order of circumduction and inscribe circles in the opposite direction.

12. While seated on a chair with the feet off the floor, bend the toes and forward section of the feet downward as far as possible while holding up the instep, and then raise the end of the toes as high as possible so that they are bent towards the instep, permitting the toes to spread all they can.

13. While seated on a chair with the heels together and resting on the floor and the forward portion of the feet spread wide apart and raised off the floor, place the hands on the inner side of the balls of the feet and push outward with the hands as you bring the forward portions of the feet together against the resistance of the hands.

14. Assume the same position as in exercise 13, except have the forward portion of the feet together and place the hands on the outside of the balls of the feet and push inward as you force the forward portion of the feet outward against the resistance of the hands.

Rest: Standing for long periods of time on the feet is unnatural and tends to produce discomfort and deformity. The feet are designed for movement, not to serve as stationary bases. Those whose occupations require them to stand on their feet many hours a day should sit and take the feet off the floor as often during the day as circumstances will permit. They should also walk about whenever possible. If walking is not possible, raising on the toes, upon the heels and on the inner side of the feet at frequent intervals during the day will relieve the unnatural strain to which they are subjected. After working hours the shoes should be removed and the feet allowed to rest.

Bathing: It is neither necessary nor desirable to wash the feet daily in warm water and soap. If the feet are “soaked” in hot water and rubbed with a stiff brush, as is common, the skin is softened and rendered more susceptible to harmful influences. This process removes the natural oil of the skin and the natural protective outer layer of the skin. Congestion in the foot and relaxation of the muscles and ligaments of the foot are produced by the hot foot bath and this weakens the foot and paves the way for fallen arches.

Cold baths, commonly recommended to toughen the feet and make them more resistant to cold and other influences, are not desirable. The addition of salt, epsom salts, or other substances to the water in which the feet are bathed is also useless and

belongs to the “doctoring” habit.

The feet should be washed as often as necessary in plain warm or cool water without soap. The hands are the best agents with which to rub the feet when washing them. They should be washed for cleanliness and not for so-called therapeutic purposes.

Shoes: The various kinds of foot specialists variously estimate the foot disorders due to improperly selected or incorrectly fitted shoes, to be from 40% to 75% of all cases. These estimates cover only such cases as are directly traceable to faulty shoes and do not refer to the high percentage of cases in which the shoes constitute an important producing factor but are not the immediate cause of the foot trouble. Few cases requiring foot correction or foot treatment would have ever developed if we had always worn proper foot wear and had always cared for the feet as we should.

All shoes are unnatural and the more they interfere with the normal movements of the foot the more trouble they will produce. The nineteen bones forming the flexible or dynamic portion of the foot normally move a great deal when used in walking or in lifting the weight of the body. As the heel is lifted from the ground the weight of the body is shifted to the bones of the more flexible portion of the foot, causing the toes to spread apart and the foot to lengthen. As the weight of the body is lifted in walking, the bones of the toes are brought together and the bending (Hexing) of the individual bones upon each other is increased until the weight of the body is shifted to the other foot and the toes are raised from the ground. The bones of the foot then quickly resume their natural positions of the foot at rest.

The average shoe compresses the forward or dynamic portion of the foot and holds it so rigid that the movement and elasticity of this portion of the foot is lost. This means that practically the only portion of the foot, even in the normal foot, in which the movements of the bones are anywhere near normal is the static portion. In many abnormal conditions of the foot, such as fallen arches, even this portion of the foot fails to function properly.

Soft-soled sandals or the Indian moccasin are the least harmful forms of foot wear. Everyone who wears the average type of shoe at work or at business, should take them off when he reaches home and either go barefooted or put on a soft, flexible slipper or moccasin.

Wrongly fitting shoes:

1. Forcibly mold the foot out of line.
2. Result in misplacement of bones, limitation of motion of the bones of the foot in walking, running, jumping, dancing, and standing, and place undue strain upon the arches of the foot. These misplacements, limitations and strains force the foot out of

line.

3. Cause pain and other symptoms and ultimately deform the foot.

A properly fitting shoe must:

1. Place no pressure or stress upon the foot.

2. Permit free distribution of the weight of the body from the heel to the ball of the foot.

3. Allow the muscles and bones of the foot complete freedom of action.

The best form of modern shoe is one with a reasonably thick but flexible sole, low heels, soft uppers, preferably low cut, and made upon a last that supplies ample room for the toes in the forepart of the shoe. The sole should be flat, not arched so that the toe is raised from the floor. The shoe should fit snugly around the ankle and instep to prevent the foot from moving forward in the shoe and to prevent friction between the shoe and the skin of the foot and toes. The inner line of the shoe should be straight so that the great toe is not pushed towards the smaller toes. The outer line of the shoe should not curve inward in such a manner that it forces the smaller toes inward. The toes should not be crowded. The shoe should be long enough to allow for the normal lengthening of the foot in walking, and wide enough to permit the foot to spread.

The foot lengthens and spreads as the weight of the body is placed upon it. It is wise always, in fitting a shoe, to fit it standing with the weight of the whole body upon the foot. The foot lengthens and spreads more as the day progresses if one walks much or stands much and also when heavy loads are carried. The foot becomes longer and wider when fatigued. A shoe that is long enough in the morning may be too short in the evening and the toes may be pushing against the toe of the shoe. The shoe should be long enough and wide enough across the ball of the foot to allow for the spread of the foot.

The shoe should “break” (wrinkle) across the top of the foot just above the joints between the toes and the long narrow bones forming the ball of the foot.

A shoe with a pointed toe need not result in foot trouble if there is sufficient room across the ball of the foot, the inner side of the shoe should be reasonably straight, and the shoe long enough not to crowd the toes. Properly fitting shoes need not be unattractive. They should be large enough; they should not be too tight in any part so that they produce pressure and cause discomfort in any part of the foot.

Rubber heels are a great advantage, especially to those who walk much upon hard floors and pavements. These absorb the jar of walking on hard surfaces and also tend to lessen the irritation resulting from standing for long periods on hard floors.

High heels are especially objectionable because they shift the weight of the body from the normal weight-bearing points to the toes, sides and top of the foot, distort

the toes, alter the positions of all the bones in the foot (and of most of the body), shorten the muscles and ligaments, hold the foot more or less rigid and prevent normal movements of the bones. Walking is difficult and the foot is deformed. High heels force the feet down into the narrow toes of the shoes and wedge them there. They are especially potent in producing deformities of the toes.

If one's work compels one to walk or stand for long periods on a hard floor, a shoe with cushion sole, or a cushion insole placed inside the shoe, will be found very helpful.

Shoes, especially those with uppers that reach up around the ankles, and boots, are literally sweat-boxes for the feet. Patent leather, water-proofed leather, rubber and rubberized fabrics and similar materials are objectionable for shoes. They are not porous and do not permit evaporation of the moisture from the skin of the foot. The moisture accumulates in the stockings and produces foot discomfort. Ordinary leather is sufficiently porous to permit evaporation of sweat from the feet so that the stockings remain comparatively dry. Perforated shoes, low cut shoes and sandals permit more complete evaporation.

"Arch supporting" shoes are pernicious. If there is a fallen arch that requires temporary support, this should be specially made to fit the individual arch in its particular condition. In the great majority of instances such shoes will disappoint those who seek relief from discomfort through their use.

Most of these so-called arch-supports do not support the arch at all. In many of these there is nothing but a piece of metal inserted into the sole of the shoe in front of the heel. This prevents bending of the shank of the shoe and, while it has no supporting effect, prevents the normal movement of the foot. In time this produces "rigid foot."

One authority says upon this point: "Arch supports that really support may be built into the sole of the shoe, but there is a great variation in the heights of the normal arches of different feet of the same size. And most cases of fallen arches require that the support be altered in accordance with the changes in the condition of the foot during exercise or treatment. For these reasons an arch supporting shoe, which really supports the arch, is much more likely to prove harmful than helpful."

At present there are foot specialists who recommend a shoe with a stiff, inflexible sole on the outer part of the shank with a flexible sole on the inside, the object being to "support" the external longitudinal, or "weight bearing" arch. Such a shoe is physiologically unsound. The shoe should fit the real architecture and the actual dynamics (movements) but should not attempt to function for the foot.

Heels that are "run down" and are worn off more on one side than on the other

cause considerable foot discomfort. The discomfort causes a shifting of the foot to abnormal positions in the effort to secure relief, and if this continues for any considerable period of time will produce various foot disorders.

Hosiery: Correct stockings are nearly as important as correct shoes. Indeed some foot experts assert that “in conditions affecting the toes and ball of the foot, incorrect stockings may be almost as productive of harm as incorrect shoes.”

One of the most common faults of hosiery is that it is too short for the foot. This has the same effect as a shoe that is too short. Stockings are often too narrow for the foot. It may be sufficiently wide across the ball of the foot, but because of its pointed toe, may misplace the toes and restrict their movements almost as much as a pointed shoe. Most hosiery is made with the longest portion of the toe in the center of the foot rather than on the inner side, where the foot is longest. Hosiery is now available that is made in rights and lefts, so that each foot may be fitted individually. Such hosiery is straight on the inner side of the foot and is longest in front of the big toe rather than in front of the middle toe.

The hosiery should be thin—no thicker than absolutely necessary to protect the foot from the shoe and external conditions. If the shoe does not fit properly, or if it is rough inside, or is made of stiff, unyielding leather, heavier stockings will be required; but one should not wear such a shoe.

Wrinkles in the stockings should be avoided, but the stockings should not fit the foot closely enough to interfere in the slightest with the normal movements of the foot. Wrinkles and rough seams and darns in the hose cause irritation and thus interfere with the normal action of the foot.

It is advisable to change stockings daily, at least in hot weather. If the feet sweat freely, or if the skin is tender, it is advisable to change the stockings more often where possible. If the stockings are worn for more than one day, they should be hung up at night to dry. The common practice of stuffing them into the shoes not only prevents drying of the stockings, but interferes with the drying out of the inside of the shoe and greatly shortens the “life” of the shoe.

Garters: Hose supporters and garters do not directly injure the feet, but by their interference with circulation and by irritation of the nerves these may be the indirect cause of trouble. The garter or supporter should not be tight enough to leave an impression upon the skin. If the skin of the leg, hip or thigh plainly shows the position of the garter or supporter after these are removed at night, a looser or a wider one should be used.

Aching feet are due to fatigue from over work of the feet, to strains thrown upon the feet by their improper use, from wrongly fitting shoes and to displacement of the

bones of the feet by wrongly fitting shoes. The remedy should be obvious.

Burning and Itching of the feet are usually due to improper hose and improper shoes. These symptoms disappear when the foot wear is corrected.

Cold feet is most commonly due to diminished circulation in the feet from (1) pressure by garters, shoes, etc., and (2) lack of exercise for the feet. Other causes of cold feet are due to impaired general health. Improved health, foot exercise and removal of the interferences with circulation will remedy the trouble.

Ingrowing toe nails are caused by the pressure of the shoe upon the side of the toe which forces the skin of the toe over the nail or, what is the same thing, forces the nail into the skin. A properly fitting shoe is the real remedy. The edge of the nail should be carefully raised and a small piece of cotton placed under it.

Corns result from pressure or friction caused by an improperly fitting shoe. The corn is a protection against the friction and pressure. A properly fitting shoe is the remedy.

Soft corns and fissures between the toes result from softening and irritation of the skin and commonly accompany burning or sweating feet. Inserting cotton between the toes and changing it when it becomes moist will give temporary relief. Properly fitting shoes is the remedy.

Callouses on the soles of the feet are protective hardenings just as similar callouses on the hands of the working man are protective. These result when the weight of the body is carried upon some part of the foot where it should not be carried. Callouses form just behind the toes when the anterior transverse arch is broken down. Callouses may be removed by soaking the feet in hot water and then rubbing the feet with a pumice stone, but their permanent removal depends upon correcting the foot deformity.

XXVI. Poison Habits

Biologists and regular physicians have no criterion to enable them to separate the norm from abnormality, so far as behavior and its consequences are concerned. They use and advocate the use of a large number of irritants and poisons, not merely as “medicines,” but as regular articles of “diet.” As has been repeatedly pointed out in these pages, biology was perversely conceived and much of it is directed to condoning conventional habits. Darwinian biology has defined evolution as “adaptation” and makes no distinction between retrogressive and progressive “adaptation.” One form is as good as the other—retrogressive “adaptation” to poisons is as good as progressive “adaptation” to new, perhaps superior food supplies. Orthobionomists cannot accept this view.

Our religious advisors taught us to mistrust our instincts; our biological instructors taught us that one way of life is as good as another; the profit system has developed myriads of ways to make the poison-vice seductively attractive to us, while the international traffic in poisons and the world-wide commercialization of poisons—producing and selling poisons is one of the world’s Big Businesses—have removed the vigilance with which our forefathers guarded their homes against the intrusion of foreign poison-vices. Our government, too, stands in the position of a natural educator in vice. It licenses the saloon, the tobacco stand, the drug store and the soda fountain. To license, for a sum of money, any business or conduct that degrades and damages any class of humanity is a violation of a moral principle. Men have no right to license wrong.

Before discussing poison habits it will be well for us to get a clear idea of what is meant by *poison* and in what way a poison differs from a food. Food is any substance that may be transformed into living structure. Poison is anything that cannot be transformed into living structure. No matter what the nature of the substance, if it cannot be transformed into blood and bone and flesh, it is a poison. Things are not poisonous by quantity, but by quality. This is to say, poisons are such intrinsically and not merely because they have been taken in “excess.” The medical notion that the distinction between medicine and poison is one of degree only is a fallacy.

The law of organic life applicable here is that whatever the living organism cannot use it must reject. This is to say, whatever the body cannot appropriate as food it must expel as a poison. All materials the relations of which to the organism give rise to antagonistic actions, those materials, in other words that the body must reject as useless, are poisons. Primarily, they are poisons because they are useless. Secondly, they are poisons because they are chemically incompatible with the

living structures and are physiologically incompatible with the functions of the body. Chemically they tend to combine with the elements of the cells and thus destroy the cells. To save itself from this chemical destruction, the body resists the tendency to chemical union of the useless substance with the cellular elements. Virulence is in proportion to the strength of the affinity between the useless substance and the cellular elements. Substances that do not tend to unite readily with cellular constituents, or that do not unite at all, are only mildly poisonous. Both virulent and non-virulent poisons are incompatible with the functions of life.

Certain poisons are poisonous to all forms of life. These poisons are classed as *protoplasm poisons*. Among such are alcohol, nicotine, quinine and mercury. Other poisons, such as the caffeine in coffee (there are other poisons in coffee also), theine in tea; theobromine in chocolate and cocoa, the caffeine in the various cola drinks, opium and its derivative, morphine, arsenic, and other such poisons that are habitually used by men and women in various parts of the earth, are virulent poisons and, as such, occasion violent resistance on the part of the body when first used. It should be understood that the true test of a poison is the action of the healthy, unperturbed body in relation to it. Once "toleration" for a poison has been established, its actions are not dependable guides, although they are not the same as those employed in making use of food.

We are a nation of poison addicts. There are few who are not addicted to the habitual use of some drug. Where is it all to end? Why are we addicted to these poison-habits? What do we hope to gain from habitually poisoning ourselves? Who is responsible for our faith in the beneficence of poisons?

Poison-habits are almost universal. Almost every tribe on the earth has some form of alcoholic drink. The tobacco habit has assumed almost world-wide proportions; the opium habit may be more widely even if less commonly used. Tea and coffee are used almost all over the world. There are numerous other poison-habits. There are thousands of arsenic-eaters in the southern Alps. Arsenious acid, antimony, cinnabar, and acetate of copper are mistaken for digestive tonics by Spanish and South American miners. In this country the soft-drink habit is almost if not quite as prevalent as the alcohol habit. "The pause that refreshes" is a pause that poisons—the "refreshing" effect is the systemic action against the poison, caffeine, of which a bottle of Coca Cola contains about the same amount as a cup of strong coffee. You don't "bounce back to normal" by the use of such slop.

It is difficult to account for the early beginnings of the various poison-habits. For, while, "under all normal circumstances the attractiveness of alimentary substances is proportioned to the degree of their healthfulness and their nutritive value," to normal

instincts and taste all hurtful things are repulsive. Even now, after thousands of years of poison-habits, there is no hereditary transmission of the poison-craving. "Innate predisposition" for alcohol, for instance, is usually the direct influence of vicious education. Home influences are often mistaken for heredity.

It is difficult to begin a degrading habit. Nature is not neutral on a point of so great importance. She has erected a bulwark between virtue and vice and this she intended to endure from birth to death. We need not strengthen that bulwark; we need not guard it with anxious care; it is capable of withstanding the ordinary wear and tear of life—we need only spare ourselves the extraordinary trouble of breaking it down. Except for our distrust of the competency of our instincts, our faith in the beneficence of poisons could not endure.

Dr. Oswald says: "A list of staple medicines' is a list of staple poisons. With a large class of medical practitioners alcohol still ranks as a remedial agent, and even as an article of food. It is well known that children and animals detest the smell of tobacco and the taste of brandy, coffee, tea and pungent spices, but the significance of that aversion still remains unheeded. Our day of leisure is still the dreariest day in the week; the welfare of the soul is still supposed to be incompatible with earthly pleasures. We have a thousand mythology-schools for one gymnasium; the importance of physical culture, the interdependence of soul and body, and the moral influence of health, have hardly begun to be realized."

The stimulation (excitement) resulting from the use of such things is the expenditure of vital reserve forces in an effort of the organism to resist and eliminate life-endangering poisons and influences. Any high flush of energy apparently imparted to us from any source other than fresh air, pure water, sunshine, exercise, rest and natural, unfermented foods, is a forced draft of precious vital reserves and means an inevitable and serious loss to the constitution. If it becomes habitual, a premature mental and physical breakdown is also inevitable.

The health of the stoutest man is no safeguard against the ravages of alcohol. How, then, shall we believe that the sick, with their vital strength at low ebb, can encounter this poisonous bane with impunity? Tea, coffee, cocoa, poisonous soda fountain slops, opium and other drugs, whether administered by the physician or indulged in habitually—and many drug addicts were made so by their physicians—poison and injure the sick as they do the well. The only safety lies in abstinence.

The persistent use of any poisonous substance, however virulent, occasions modifications in structures and functions in a way to accomodate us to the unnatural habit. These structural and functional modifications are always away from the ideal. However deceitfully beneficial these poisons may appear, once the poison-habit is

established, they slowly and insidiously, but certainly, undermine the constitution. It would be difficult to estimate the amount of human degeneracy poison-habits are responsible for and impossible to exaggerate the harm they have done. Yet nature has not left us unwarned of their true character. By the following facts nature enables us to distinguish between a “poison-stimulant” and a nutritive substance:

1. *The first taste of every poison is either bitter, repulsive or insipid.*

To a normal taste every poison is abhorrent and with rare exceptions, the degree of repulsiveness is proportioned to that of the virulence. We acquire a poison-habit over the vigorous protests of our organic instincts. Instinct resists the incipience of an insidious second-nature .

Vegetable poisons are either nauseous or intensely bitter. Morphine is so bitter that a trace of its powder can be tasted in the air; absinthe (wormwood-extract) is as bitter as gall; chocolate and cocoa are as bitter as the protoplasmic poison, quinine, and must be mixed with large quantities of sugar before we can eat or drink them; coffee, unless disguised by milk and sugar, is offensively bitter; hasheesh is more unattractive than turpentine; alcohol is as repulsive as corrosive sublimate; lager beer is a fluid substitute for tartar emetic; laudanum is acrid, caustic; tea and antimony are insipid; the bitterness of strychnine is proverbial.

Mineral poisons are bitter or insipid. Arsenic and sugar-of-lead are examples of this. Potassium and verdigris are even nauseous. Mineral poisons are decidedly out-of-the-way substances against which nature seems to have thought it loss necessary to provide special safeguards. But, though less repulsive than other poisons, they are never positively attractive and often (like verdigris, potassium, etc.) are perceptibly nauseous.

To the palate of a child, narcotic “stimulants” are bitter; alcohol is burning-acrid; tobacco nauseous; mineral poisons either bitter or insipid; the taste of rum, lager beer, hasheesh and opium are violently repulsive. In the mouth of a healthy child, rum is liquid fire; beer an emetic; tea and coffee, bitter decoctions; tobacco fumes revolt the stomach of the non-habitue. “Few smokers can forget the effects of the diffident first attempt—the revolt of the system against the incipience of a virulent habit.” Dr. Oswald says; “Only blind deference to the example of his elders will induce a boy to accustom himself to such abominations; if he were left to the guidance of his natural instincts, intoxication would be anything but an insidious vice.”—*Physical Education*, p. 51.

By a liberal admixture of sugar and milk the repulsiveness of the various poisons can be diminished, but in no disguise could they ever be mistaken for nutritive substances had not the natural-depravity dogma so weakened our confidence in the

testimony of our instincts. So long as with devilish art we disguise poisons as dainties by mixing them with syrupy aliment, we cheat our instincts out of their natural discrimination by their sensual faculties.

Our natural repugnance to “medicines” caused the pharmacists to disguise—sugar-coat—them, so that they could be got past the sentinel of taste without protest. But this does not prevent the protest of the stomach and intestine. Dr. Oswald writes: “Our instincts protest against medication. Against ninety-nine of a hundred ‘remedial drugs’ our sense of taste warns us as urgently as against rotten eggs, verdigris, or oil of vitrol. Shall we believe that nature repudiates the means of salvation? Or that our instincts forsake us in the hour of our sorest need?”—*The Poison Problem*, p. 27.

2. *The persistent use of the poison changes the aversion into a specific craving.*

Swallowing virulent drugs—even arsenic or prussic acid—again and again, over the protests of the system, finally establishes what is called a “state of tolerance.” The direct protests of the body cease. An abnormal change has been brought about so that if the user now seeks to discontinue the use of the poison he is likely to find that the poison has become his master. The old resistance has been supplanted by an abnormal craving—he seems to need his “stimulant.” While I have used the popular term craving, I should explain that I do not think the body ever craves any hurtful and non-usable substance. What is mistaken for a craving for tobacco, coffee, morphine, alcohol, etc., is the intolerable depression, unease, even actual pain that the user experiences when deprived of his accustomed *narcotic* or *stimulant*. Finding that another dose of morphine will provide him with another period of narcosis, in which he is not conscious of his misery, or that another cup of coffee will temporarily “relieve” her coffee-induced headache, the drug victim returns again and again to the sources of the misery for the fictional relief experienced. It is the distress cry of outraged nerves that is mistaken for a *craving*.

Water and food substances never beget a specific craving. If we cannot get one food, the body will always be perfectly satisfied with a substitute. Not so the dram-drinker. His “thirst” cannot be assuaged with water or fruit juice. His enslaved body “craves” his accustomed alcoholic or even a stronger drink. The poison-habit begets a “craving” uncompromisingly directed towards a special, once repulsive substance; a craving defying the limiting instincts which indicate the proper quantity of wholesome foods and drinks; a craving which each gratification makes more irresistible, though each indulgence is always followed by a depressing reaction. We should learn to distinguish between natural appetites and unnatural appetencies and guide ourselves accordingly. No acquired craving should be allowed to deceive us.

What amounts almost to a law is the fact that the violence of the unnatural

craving for a poison is proportioned to the virulence of each poison and to the degree of the original repugnance. The “ugliest stimulant fiends take the firmest hold.” Morphine is all in all about the most offensive drug in the vegetable kingdom, yet its grip on the addict is most difficult to break. Opium holds its victims in a stronger grip than coffee; hasheesh is a more powerful master than tobacco; arsenic holds its victims in a more powerful grip than Coca Cola; tobacco is a more imperious master than tea.

The taste of the first drink, smoke, snuff or chew betrayed the poison. “They scratch and bite when we first hug them,” says Dr. Oswald, “but their strangling embrace is hard to break. It tightens till it threatens to choke out the vital spark, together with the resisting strength of their victims.” An old Spanish proverb tells us that it is easier to keep the devil out than to turn him out abstinence is easier than so-called temperance.

Dr. Oswald says: “There is no bane in the South American swamps, no virulent compound in the North American drug stores— chemistry knows no deadliest poison whose gradual and persistent obtrusion on the human organism will not create an unnatural craving after a repetition of the lethal dose, a morbid appetency in every way analogous to the hankering of the toper after his favorite tippie. Swallow a tablespoonful of laudanum or a few grains of arsenious acid every night; at first your physical conscience protests by every means in its power; nausea, gripes, gastric spasms, and nervous headaches warn you again and again; the struggle of the digestive organs against the fell intruder convulses your whole system. But you continue the dose, and nature, true to her highest law to preserve life at any price, finally adapts herself to an abnormal condition—adapts your system to the poison at whatever cost to health, strength and happiness. Your body becomes an opium-machine, an arsenic-mill, a physiological engine moved by poisons and performing its vital functions only under the spur of the unnatural stimulus. But by-and-by the jaded system fails to respond to the spur, your strength gives away and, alarmed at the symptoms of rapid deliquium, you resolve to remedy the evil by removing the cause. You try to renounce stimulation, and rely once more on the unaided strength of the *Vis Vitae*. But that strength is almost exhausted. The oil that should have fed the flame of life has been wasted on a health-consuming fire. Before you can regain strength and happiness your system must re-adapt itself to the normal condition, and the difficulty of that rearrangement will be proportioned to the degree of the present disarrangement; the further you have strayed from nature, the longer it will take you to retrace your steps. Still, it is always the best plan to make your way somehow or other, for, if you resign yourself to your fate, it will soon confront you with another

and greater difficulty. Before long the poison-fiend will demand a larger fee; you have to increase the dose. The ‘delightful and exhilarating stimulant’ has palled, the quantum has now to be doubled to pay the blue-devils off, and to the majority of their distracted victims that seems the best, because the shortest road to peace. Restimulation really seems to alleviate the effects of the poison-habit for a time. The anguish always returns, and always with increased strength, as a fire, smothered for a moment with fuel, will break forth again with a fiercer flame.”—*Physical Education*, p. 49, 50, 51.

3. *The more or less pleasurable excitement induced by a gratification of that craving is always followed by a depressing reaction.*

The legitimate exercise of every normal function is associated with pleasurable sensations instead of agonizing actions. A feast of wholesome food is followed by a state of considerable physical comfort and ultimate reinvigoration. But no length of practice saves the poison-slave from the painful consequences of his indulgences. Each full indulgence is followed by a full measure of woeful retribution, while a half indulgence results in a half depression. The victims of the poison-habit mistake a process of irritation for a process of invigoration. But, as Dr. Oswald expresses it, “by-and-by the jaded system fails to respond to the spur; the poison-slave has to resort to stronger stimulants or else to larger and ever larger doses. The gathering night can thus be made to give way to an occasional flickering-up of the vital flame; but the progressive nervous exhaustion at last defies every remedy; the worshiper of the poison-demon must consummate his self-sacrifice; the shadow of his doom has settled on his soul, and all the strongest stimulants can now do for him is to recall a momentary glimmering of the light that filled the unclouded heaven of his childhood.”

More than once in the World’s history, infant dragons have been mistaken for harmless lizards. What appeared at first to be harmless, “mild stimulants” have proved themselves to be terrible monsters. Let the stimulant user attempt to give up his stimulant and he will perceive how strongly it holds him in its grip. The chief danger of a relapse is not the attractiveness of intoxication, but the misery of the after-effects, the depressing reaction that follows upon the abnormal excitement, and for several weeks seems daily to gain strength. The apathy of the unstimulated system can become more intolerable than positive pain, and embitter existence till the victim returns to his poison-habit.

Poisons are deceptive in that they seem to remedy the very pain and depression which their use produces. Dr. Oswald says that, “By these symptoms the disease of the poison habit may be identified in all its disguises, for the self-deception of the

poor old lady who seeks relief in a cup of the same strong tea that has caused her sick headache is absolutely analogous to that of the pot house sot who hopes to drown his care in the source of his misery, or the frenzied opium-eater who tries to exorcise the legion of fiends with the aid of Beelzebub.”— *Physical Education*, p. 51.

4. *Every poison-vice is progressive and soon after the beginning of a new poison-habit the majority of users find that the habit “grows on them.”*

There is no such thing as a harmless “stimulant,” or “tonic”— poison. The incipience of every unnatural appetite is the first stage in a progressive “disease.” The use of poisons induces a growing depression of vital energy and this leads to a constant demand for means of “stimulation.” This demand is met in two ways:

a. By a direct increase of the quantity or strength of the special “stimulant.”

We start with a cup of mild coffee once a day; we end by drinking several cups a day of strong coffee. We begin with one mild cigarette or cigar a day, we end by smoking many cigarettes or cigars of strong brands a day; we start with three percent beer and end with rum or whiskey.

b. By the progress from a milder to more virulent poison of a different kind.

The road to the rum-shop is paved with “mild stimulants.” Cider and mild ale lead to strong ale, to lager beer and, finally, to rum. A penchant for any kind of “tonic” drug—nicotine, narcotic infusions, hasheesh, the milder opiates, etc.—may initiate a poison-habit with an unlimited capacity for development. Dr. Jennings said that men who drink, “become drunkards by law—fixed immutable law.”

Claude Bernard, famous French physiologist, noticed that the opium-vice recruits its female victims from the ranks of veteran coffee-drinkers; in Savoy and the adjoining Swiss cantons, Kirsch-Wasser prepares the way for arsenic; in London and St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) many ether-drinkers have relinquished high wine for a more concentrated poison, and in Constantinople the Persian opium-shops have eclipsed the popularity of the Arabian coffeehouses. Vices as well as virtues are cooperative.

In the South Sea Islands, wherever the natives have been fond of fermented cocoa-milk, their children have become still fonder of rum; while the Papuans, whose forefathers had never practiced stimulation, have always shown an aversion to drunkenness. The alcoholic vice is not most prevalent where alcoholic drinks of the most seductive kind are cheapest, but where the greatest variety of milder “stimulants” are employed.

Dr. Oswald says, an important and frequently overlooked feature of every poison habit, is its progressiveness. “The original moderate quantum soon palls, and it is this craving of the system for the same degree of stimulation which leads to Johnsonian

excesses or the adoption of a stronger stimulant. Men generally prefer the latter alternative. Coffee, tea and tobacco pave the way to opium in the East and to alcohol in the West. The same holds true of pungent spices.”— *Physical Education*, p. 52.

Again, he says: “Pepper and mustard form the vanguard of the poison-fiend. They inflame the liver, produce a morbid irritability of the stomach, cause numerous functional derangements by impeding the process of assimilation, and thus become auxiliary in expediting the development of the poison-habit. Whatever irritates the digestive organs or unusually exhausts the vital forces tends to the same effect .”— *Physical Education*, p. 52.

No poison-vice can ever be remedied or prevented by a milder poison. No poison-vice has ever prevented the introduction of worse poisons. The argument that light wines and beer prevent drinking stronger drinks or that the use of lager beer will prevent the dissemination of the opium habit is utterly false. It is a mistake to tolerate the minor poison-habits. The poison-vice is a many-headed hydra which defies one-sided attacks. The friends of temperance cannot hope for success until they become radical enough to help eradicate the deep-rooted faith in the “stimulant” fallacy. We cannot compromise with the poison-fiend; no half-way measures will suffice. We must apply our axe to the roots of this giant upas tree.

XXVII. Living Life to Live it Longer

The man who said, "I am interested in the future, because I will spend the rest of my life there," should have added, "I am also interested in health, because I want to spend the rest of my life well." A longer life must be a healthier life. Unless we believe life to be subject to haphazard we will recognize this.

Back in the 1870's it was asserted that at least one-fourth of all babies born died before having completed their seventh year and one-half before reaching the age of seventeen. Only six persons in a hundred reached the age of seventy-five and hardly more than one in ten thousand reached the age of a hundred. This was an appalling picture of death and caused many to raise the question: "Is man, as a physical being, essentially a failure?"

Due to a number of causes, chief among which has been a great reduction of the deadliness of medical practice, there has been a great reduction in the death rate of infants and children, so that a marked increase in the average life-span has resulted. In other words, the increased average life-span of which so much is now said, is due, not to any actual lengthening of human life, but to a reduction in the killing of the young. Indeed, there has been a reduction in the length of life after forty due to causes that should become apparent as we proceed.

My purpose in this chapter is to point the way to an actual and not merely an average increase in the length of life. I am not so much, however, interested in the increased length of life as I am in the improvement of life while it does last. We want, not merely longer life, but better life. We have men who deprecate long life, but these seem to overlook the great army of babies, children and youths of both sexes who die before they have had an opportunity to live. We want more and longer life for everybody.

Many have been the efforts to determine what should be the "normal life span" of man. As far back as the time of Aristotle, it was suspected that the length of the growing period of an animal is an index to its possible length of life—the latter being some number of times the former. Buffon, the French naturalist, developed this idea at great length in his works and gave numerous illustrations of it. The uncertainty of his conclusions, however, grew out of the difficulty of determining the exact limits of the period of growth. At a somewhat later date, M. Flourens, in his *Elementa Physiologia* showed that growth ceased with the union of the bones with their *epiphyses* and thus a reliable means of determining the length of the growth period was provided.

With this yard stick as a guide, it was found that man finishes his growth at about

the age of twenty-four, the camel at eight, the horse at five, the cow at four, the dog at two and the rabbit at one. These animals are said to live five times the period they require to complete their growth. Thus, the camel lives forty years, the horse twenty-five years, the cow twenty years, the dog ten years and the rabbit five years. It should be understood that these ages are by no means accurate and that they do not represent the extreme ages that have been attained by individual specimens of these species. Using these as a basis, however, and assuming that man should also live five times the period required to reach physical maturity, it was thought that he should average about one hundred and twenty years. We have a long way to go to reach this standard.

The average length of life in this country is a little higher for women than for men. It seems too that the oldest human beings of whom we have authentic records have been women, who have outlived the men by a year or two. These facts are taken to mean that women are inherently stronger than men. I read these figures differently. So long as in each generation, we run our young men through a screen and take out the best specimens, the finest constitutions, and send them off to be maimed and killed in our senseless and needless wars, while leaving the scrubs and runts behind out of danger, women will continue to live longer, on the average, than men, because those men whose greater length of life would add to the average for man, have been uselessly slaughtered.

I would also call attention to the fact that a man does not have to be killed on the battlefield to have his life shortened by war. Injuries received while in war, which he carries with him for years afterwards, may ultimately shorten his life five to ten or more years. A year or more spent in a prison camp, with hardly enough food to keep alive and this of the most inadequate kind as regards quality, may greatly shorten his life. We need but think of the high death rate in allied prisoners of war when these were released from Japanese prison camps at the conclusion of the last world war. Of these prisoners who are still alive, we cannot expect long life. The modern practice of pumping the bodies of soldiers full of vaccines and serums of all kinds, resulting in speedy death in some cases, severe anaphylaxis in many cases and mild anaphylaxis in all cases, must also shorten life for the men, even if they never reach the battlefield.

It is urged that the fact that, the death rate in male infants is slightly higher than in female infants indicates an inherent superiority of females over males. A few more boys than girls are born, but the difference in the death rate of the two sexes about evens up the number of both sexes that survive, so that it is thought that nature produces more males than females to assure the survival of sufficient males to "go round." Both of these notions may be equally false.

Male babies are, on the average, larger and longer than female babies at birth. Their greater intra-uterine growth indicates a greater nutritive need during this period. Males are also much more active than females before birth as well as after birth. This also points to a marked difference in nutritive requirements. The predominately denatured diet of our population may more nearly adequately nourish the relatively passive female embryo and fetus than it does the active male. This is to say that, what may prove more nearly adequate for the female, thus assuring greater viability, may prove to be much less adequate for the male, thus lessening viability. It should be obvious that it is much easier for the mother, eating, as is the custom, a denatured diet, to more nearly supply the nutritive needs of the smaller and more passive female fetus than it is for her to adequately supply, on the same denatured diet, the needs of the larger and active male. The assumed greater inherent viability of the female may be due to nothing more than more adequate prenatal nutrition. Until it has been shown that male babies born of adequately nourished mothers have a higher death rate than female babies born of equally well nourished mothers, the argument, as it is offered today, it seems to me, is very faulty.

This, it seems to me, is a more rational explanation of the slightly higher death rate of male babies over female babies than is the assumption that nature, knowing that more males than females will die, has provided for more males to be born, in order to offset the disparity in numbers of the two sexes that would otherwise result from the difference in the death rate. Indeed, it would seem that if nature knows and foreknows and actually prepares in advance for such contingencies, she would show more sense in merely improving the viability of males instead of preparing a certain number in advance for the slaughter.

In view of the great numbers of individuals of both sexes who never mate, who are actually unfit for parenthood, who are sterile, impotent and defective in such ways that parentage is impossible, etc., there does not seem to be any real reason why nature should try to exactly even up the numbers of the two sexes. Also, as the prohibition of plural matings is religio-political and not biological, the assumed natural need for equality in numbers of the sexes does not seem to be real.

It seems to me that in any consideration of the relative length of life of man and woman as revealed by statistics, there are other important facts that are worthy of consideration. First, there is the fact that most male babies do survive. Then there is the fact that great numbers of men do live to what is regarded as "ripe old age." On the other side of this picture, there are the facts that great numbers of female babies do perish and that great numbers of women do not reach old age. Finally, the difference between the average length of life of the two sexes is so small that, taken

into consideration along with the foregoing facts, it seems to me, indicates that something other than the assumed inherent superiority of one sex over the other must be called in to account for the differences that actually exist. It is the rule in nature that those forms of life that mature latest have the longest length of life and on this basis men should outlive women. Yet I find the fact that women mature earlier than men offered as an indication of woman's superiority over man. I doubt the absolute superiority of either sex over the other, although I do not doubt that there are spheres in which each sex has advantages over the other.

There are numerous other reasons to account for the slightly lower average life-span of men as compared with women, without dragging in the assumption that men are physically inferior to women. Men are subjected to more and greater industrial hazards; they do much heavy labor and this is known to shorten life; they dissipate more, they eat more heavily and take more chances with their life. Women stone cutters and women glass blowers are rare; the number of women who ride bucking broncos or bull-dog steers are few compared to the number of men who do so. Injuries and respiratory damages resulting from these and many like occupations account for much abbreviation of the actual and the average masculine life-span. A study of causes is needed.

Married men have a slight advantage over single men as regards longevity. It seems also that single men have a slightly higher percentage of cases of insanity and a few other troubles among them. These facts are interpreted to mean that married life is superior to single life and, while this may be true, this interpretation leaves out of account the fact that great numbers of people remain single for the very reason that they are neurotic, psychotic and defective in many other ways. If the single and the married were on the average, equal in all other respects, then comparisons between the lengths of life of single and married would be valid. If we fed a hundred congenital idiots on a vegetarian diet and a hundred pro-geniuses on a flesh diet, and then, when they had attained the age of twenty, established the average intelligence of the two groups we could make out a wonderful case for the value of the carnivorous diet. This would be somewhat similar to what has been done in the comparisons of married and single people. When a study of causes is made, many false notions that are now current will be laid to rest.

If we reflect upon the facts that many married people do die young while many single people do reach advanced ages; that many married people do become insane while many single people retain their sanity to the end of life and that these same facts are true with relation to all the other diseases and suicides in which married people are said to have a distinct advantage over single people, it becomes apparent

that there is no magic in marriage that assures health, sanity and long life and nothing in a life of “single blessedness” that necessarily shortens life, impairs health or wrecks sanity. In the considerations of these two modes of existence statistics have been too heavily relied upon and the fact that statistics give results, not causes, has been wholly overlooked. I would emphasize again that a study of causes is a great need.

“There is nothing in the turning of the earth on its axis to age a man.” There is nothing in the earth’s journeys around the sun to age a man. These are the things by which we mark time; the things by which we determine a man’s chronological age (the number of years he has lived), but these do not determine one’s psychological age (his mental age), nor his physiological age (the age of his body).

A man may be an antique at thirty, at seventy he may be far in advance of the age in which he lives. “Old Age” is a condition or state of mind and body and not a time of life. Time *per se* has no effect upon the body and mind. The changes which occur in the body in producing “old age,” while occurring in time and place, are no more due to time than to place. By “old age” we are to understand a certain pathologic state which has developed in time, but which is not due to time. Time is only incidental, not causal.

Youth is not necessarily a time of life. It is a condition of the body and of the spirit of man. Youth is health, strength, freshness, affirmation, expression, enthusiasm, humor, completeness and wholeness of life. Youth is fluid, open minded, rebellious, and revolutionary. It fights superstitions, breaks down idols, customs, conventions, and out-worn traditions. It takes the cobwebs from the mind. Youth wants to know. Youth is progressive; age is static. Check yourself by these things and not by the calendar and see whether you are young or old. You may lie young at ninety—you may be old at twenty. Test yourself and see.

It seems to me to be wrong to speak of old age as a physiological norm, when almost the whole of the race dies of pathological conditions that have no connection with senility. Poisoning and starvation hold sway everywhere and even where no acute poisoning exists, constant chronic poisoning of the organism occurs. Senility is not a physiological phenomenon, but is a complex of successive and concomitant pathological developments. Biologically senility is chronic poisoning of the organism by all kinds of toxins. In senility we witness the slow degeneration and degradation of an organism—a slow and not an abrupt degenerative process.

Senescence may set in early or late; it is slower in some and later in others in developing, depending on the amount and character of poisoning they are subjected to and the amount of resistance they are able to offer. Some of the conditions we usually associate with “old age” are frequently met with in children and youths. Many

boys develop gray hairs while yet in their teens. Decay of teeth, failing sight, impaired hearing and other “old age” conditions are common in present-day children. Physical deterioration often begins at birth or before. As the years pass and the deterioration continues, we “age.”

It has been argued that since, as we grow older we “cannot commit the same offenses with impunity against the physical laws of life as we can in our earlier years,” we must accept it as a fact that time has a very definite effect upon the body. This argument fails to distinguish between time *per se*, and the cumulative effects, in time, of those factors which are the real causes of deterioration. There is never a time when one can commit offenses against one’s body with impunity, but it is true that one usually has greater resistance to and recuperates much more rapidly from the effects of such abuses when young than when old. For, by the time we have become old, repeated offenses have greatly impaired our recuperative powers. Our lack of resistance to offenses is not due to the wearing effects of time, but to the damaging effects of the repeated offenses.

A stream of water will wash away a granite boulder in a sufficient length of time, but the actual cause of the disappearance of the granite is the wearing effects of the water and not the time. Similarly, one cigar, or one drink or one gluttonous feast may not perceptibly injure a young man, but if he repeats these day after day for years, the cumulative effects of such offenses against his body are great. Ten years of such offensive living will greatly impair his organs and forces and lessen his recuperative abilities. Not the time (the ten years), but the offenses, produce the “ageing” and lessen the powers of life.

The simple natural processes of growth lead to superb health and a perfect equilibrium between the processes of waste and repair in the body, unless these are overwhelmed and obstructed. By these processes the body is constantly and eternally renewing itself. This process of renewal is automatic and perfect in its operations and, so far as we know, is capable of continuing indefinitely. *The Fountain of Youth* is within you. The power to establish and maintain a perfect equilibrium between the processes of construction and destruction—waste and repair—is inherent and needs only to be allowed to operate unhampered from without to maintain health and youth. But our mode of living is so unnatural, so out of harmony with the laws of being, that we often begin to grow old almost by the time we begin to live.

Due to this weakness and deterioration, waste accumulates during the entire life-period of the body. It has been shown, to quote Sokoloff, that indol and phenol, “products of the disintegration of albumen, bring about degeneration of the vessels by fermenting in the human intestines.” The older the body and the more gluttony and

sensuality have been indulged in, the greater the toxin saturation. The body is young or old to the extent with which it is burdened or not with waste and toxins. When waste and toxins accumulate in the body, the cells are poisoned. Many of them sicken and die and all of them are more or less impaired. The channels of life are clogged. These wastes clutter up the activities of life and physical, physiological and mental efficiency are greatly lowered.

Length of life depends upon certain definite factors of living. It is now quite the fashion to deny this. Life insurance actuaries, biologists, physicians and others assert that it is pretty well proved that we live about as long as our ancestors. If our ancestors were long lived we will be; if they were short lived we cannot live long. Call it fatalism, predestination, Calvinism, heredity, or what you will, this is the prevailing view. I have not attempted to trace this fallacy to its source. In his *In a Nutshell*, published in 1883 Dr. Dio Lewis quotes a Col. B. as saying:

“Longevity is inherited. If your progenitors were long lived you will be; if they were short lived you will be short lived and that’s all there is to it; you can’t help yourself any more than you can prevent being tall or short.”

Dr. Lewis replied to this with some facts which should convince any but the most stubborn that such a position is false. A few years previous to this Dr. Lewis had gone to London to study the literature of longevity in the British Museum Library, which, he says, “contains, probably, more longevity literature than all the other libraries of the world.” From among the number of “very old persons” whose recorded habits he studied, he chose, in replying to the Col., the case of a Yorkshireman whose parish registry proved him to be 98 years old. This man had 11 brothers and sisters who reached an average age of 62 years. He had a son named John who lived to be 97. John had a son named Edward who lived to be 94. Edward’s son, David, reached 99.

John was one of a family of 11 children. The other ten attained to an average age of 64 years. Edward had 7 brothers and sisters who attained an average age of 36 years. David had 13 brothers and sisters whose ages averaged 51 years. Thus, when the ages of the four old men are omitted the average ages of these families are not great. Dr. Lewis remarks that “this statement will occasion no surprise to the students of longevity, for to them it is a familiar fact that nearly all persons remarkable for long life have brothers and sisters who die early.”

If length of life is determined by heredity, as is contended, it hardly seems likely that in a single strain in four generations, long life should be inherited by only one member of the family in each generation while all other members of each family are comparatively short lived. The fact that in almost every family of several children,

there are both short lived and long lived individuals seems to point away from heredity as the determining factor. It must, of course, be admitted that in the case of strains that have degenerated to such an extent that none of the members of the strain are capable of long life, hereditary weaknesses and deficiencies will assure short life. But it does not seem logical to start with the implied assumption that, from the very origin of man on the earth, there have been two strains of man—one a long lived strain and the other a short lived one and that, since shortness and length of life are inherent and inheritable, there is nothing that can be done about it.

But the records of these families are even more interesting and instructive when we come to the habits of the people themselves. It was thought strange that the first of these old men should have lived so long, “for he was thin and pale, and never ate any meat or drank any beer. His brothers and sisters were hale and hearty, and yet they died early.” Of John, it is recorded, that he “was such a small eater they thought he would never be good for anything. Even when he was at work in the fields he lived on simple bread and milk. His brothers and sisters had wonderful appetites, and some of them were so stout that everybody thought they would live to be a hundred.” Of Edward, we are told, he “was very delicate and slender, and a small eater. But while all his brothers were wonderful hearty and healthy, he outlived them a great many years.” Finally, we are informed of David, that, “he did a great deal of hard work, which is so strange when we think that he took hardly enough food to keep him alive, and yet the day he was 99 he walked two miles.” David’s brothers “who died before 50, were hearty eaters and a great deal stronger than he.”

Should it not give pause to those who preach and practice the belly’s gospel of three squares plus, when they read that the forty-one individuals in these four families who died comparatively young, were “hale and hearty,” had such “wonderful appetites,” and some of them were “so stout that everybody thought they would live to be a hundred,” that they were “wonderful hearty and healthy,” etc., while, of the four who lived to be nearly 100, it is recorded that they “never ate any meat or drank any beer,” “when at work in the fields lived on simple bread and milk;” “small eater,” “hardly enough food to keep him alive;” etc.

Sylvester Graham frequently repeated his statement that a drunkard may reach old age, but a glutton never. Dr. Lewis well says: “great temperance in eating is an essential condition of *longevity*.” The formula for a ripe and happy old age has always been the same: namely, self-control, moderation and mental poise. We cut short our lives by the same means by which we impair our health, distort bodily symmetry and ruin our beauty.

Experiments as well as experience have shown that all excess is fatal to healthy

action. Intensive nourishment results in much poisoning in infusoria and a short fast is necessary to restore them to youth. (The rejuvenating effects of fasting are detailed in Vol. III). A reduction of surfeit is essential to the most vigorous manifestations of vitality. A symbiotic food supply (see Vol. II) with symbiotic moderation in eating is best calculated to sustain life, health and youth for the longest possible time.

Weismann's observations and the results of tissue-culture in the laboratory reveal that there are no limits to vitality. Trees may live a thousand years or more and subsequently die only of harmful external conditions. It should be remembered that the man who lives beyond the hundred year mark is only a man and possesses no organs, faculties or powers which are not the birth-right of every man. He is subject to the same laws of life as every other man. It would seem, therefore, that every baby born with a sound constitution, possesses the basis of a long life. The evidence shows that our best constitutions are greatly impaired. Until biological regeneration has restored man to his pristine soundness it will not be possible for us to determine to what length of life he is inherently capable.

During the course of the debate between Dr. Lewis and Col. B., the Col. referred to two men known to both him and Dr. Lewis— Capt. Dakely, age 61, and Deacon Phelps, age 96. The Col. said: "You will agree with me that the Captain is really older than the deacon, more likely to die this year. What is the cause for Dakely being older at 61 than Phelps at 96? I will tell you. The captain's parents died before they were 60, while the deacon's parents were nearly 100."

Dr. Lewis pointed out, in reply, that the habits of Capt. Dakely had been bad, but that he had a brother, "whose personal habits are a model," and who "at the age of 73 is discharging the duties of pastor of a large church, and promises to live 20 years longer." On the other hand, Deacon Phelps, "a very old man" who, "at present bids fair to become a centenarian," was a "model of sobriety." His parents who lived to be almost 100 "were remarkable for temperance in all things." Dr. Lewis adds:

"But observe, they had a family of 14 children, 8 of whom died before they were 50 years old, and none of the rest, except the deacon lived to 70. Many of us know the bad habits of some of the brothers, and I have heard stories of others. They were not drunkards but gluttons. Several of them were of exceptional vigor, greatly superior to the deacon. The deacon has told me that from his earliest years he was rather delicate, and a remarkably small eater; that it was a common remark at their family table when he was a boy that he ate less than either of his sisters; that from the beginning of life he was very abstemious."

Why does a delicate boy outlive by many years, his brothers of exceptional vigor? Because his very delicacy forced him to take care of himself, while their exceptional

vigor enabled them to abuse themselves with apparent, but not real impunity. Exceptional vigor harnessed to ignorance and imprudence soon exhausts itself. Somebody has said that if you want a man to live long, give him a chronic disease and teach him how to take care of it. The famous case of Louis Cornaro is of interest in this connection. Here was a man who by the gluttony, inebriety, sensuous indulgence and riotous living, which made up the life of the nobleman of his day, had wrecked himself at forty. His physicians gave him but a short time to live. By extreme moderation in eating, great moderation in light wines, and a quiet, but active life he managed to restore his health and live to the age of 103. He outlived his physicians who had pronounced the death sentence upon him.

Dr. Lewis made a study of the lives of many notable examples of longevity which existed during his own time and found them all to be abstemious eaters. He says also, that he had learned from his studies of the recorded habits of 200 centenarians, that:

“1st. A large majority of them were remarkable for table moderation. In no case is it mentioned (that large eating was the habit.”

“2nd. In a great proportion I find total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, or extreme moderation. In no case is a free use of spirits recorded.”

“3rd. In a large number it is mentioned that they retired and rose early. In no case is it said that late and irregular hours was the rule.”

“4th. In many cases it is stated that the centenarian lived in the open air.”

Bulgaria is called the land of the centenarian. In 1927, with a total population less than that of New York City, this country had 3,139 centenarians. This is fifty-eight centenarians per 100,000 of population as compared to but four per 100,000 in America at the same time. A commission of Bulgarian physicians visited these old people and reported as follows:

“Virtually all showed that their lives were characterized by a placidity of disposition, freedom from worry and of contemplative bearing. All were of friendly disposition, optimistic, fond of singing in their youth and in their old age. As a rule they play some musical instrument, drink only mild alcoholic drinks prepared in their own homes, and these only in small quantities and at meal times. They seldom smoke. They eat mostly vegetable food and milk products, usually sour milk and buttermilk. They are all industrious, early risers, and sleep uncovered as long as possible. Their domestic life is characterized by moderation; they have married late, usually after 30, and have had from five to ten children. Almost all of them live in the open and are farmers.”

Those who seek for a specific for longevity will look in vain for a single habit in the above which is the cause of longevity in these people. It is the mode of life not

the single habit that determines the outcome. It is the general manner of living rather than any particular practice which kills us early or permits us to live long. The mode of living of these Bulgarians can be greatly improved. Under improved living they (or we) should be able to live much longer and be in much better physical and mental condition.

They lead simple, abstemious lives, maintain mental poise, avoid hurry and worry, and are cheerful and contented. They live active outdoor lives, expose their bodies to the air, secure an abundance of rest and sleep daily and are moderate in their sexual indulgence. Their diet is simple, plain and wholesome. Their bread is made of whole grain, their foods have not been denatured as have ours. They are “moderate” even in their bad habits.

No single one of these factors assures long life—but all of them combined promote longevity. It is, of course, true that, even under the most favorable circumstances, one needs a good, sound constitution to begin with if he is to attain the limits of long life possible for man. A man of sound constitution may even drink or smoke considerable providing his other habits are good, and still live to a ripe old age. “When one person dies prematurely through tobacco or drink,” says Dr. Lewis, “ter. succumb to gluttony.”

Some years ago Prof. Caldwell, of Transylvania University, declared “one American consumes as much food as two Highlanders although the latter are amongst the stoutest of the race.” An Italian patient of mine once told me that when he came to America and watched us eat he exclaimed: “These Americans eat three banquets a day!” He added, “In Italy we do not have so much food. We have one and two meals a day, composed largely of fruits, vegetables and brown bread. Meat is scarce. Milk is scarce.” A Macedonian patient of mine told me the same of his own people in Macedonia. Vegetables, fruits, brown bread, wine or whiskey, is their diet. One and two meals a day is the rule among the farmers. Where breakfast is eaten it is fruit. Lunch is a sandwich of brown bread, cheese and leeks or just the bread and leeks. In the evening they eat their heavy meal.

In America we teach, hire, bribe, tempt, and coerce our children into overeating from the very day of their birth. We coax them to eat more and more and deliberately cultivate gluttony in them. At school we feed them milk and candy between meals. Intemperate eating is one of our universal faults. Almost all of us are guilty of it, not merely occasionally, but habitually and uniformly, from the cradle to the grave. Even the sick are urged to eat, in many instances to gorge themselves, in spite of the loudest warnings and strongest protests of nature.

I know your answer. I have heard it hundreds of times. It runs about like this: “I

am going to have some pleasure out of life. I would rather live as I do and live only ten years than to live as you do and live a hundred years. I would rather have some pleasure and not live so long. I would rather live sixty-years with real pleasure than eighty of wretched self-denial. I would rather be a lamp-post on Broadway than an archlight on Main street. I prefer a short life and a merry one. Come, now, why not enjoy ourselves? We live but once, let us get all the pleasure out of life that we can."

A merry life! What a grim joke! Did you ever watch a confirmed dyspeptic, whose life was a failure both as to enjoyment and usefulness making merry with his meals? His short life and a merry one consists in the momentary gratification of his gustatory sense with plum-pudding or hot-dogs, followed by hours of belching and groaning. Men are lured to their doom by their appetites and appetences; they are killed by anti-bionomic behavior. As Salleeby says of them, "They love their lives and rush blindfolded, headlong into their graves."

"Habits," says Darwin, "easily become associated with other habits." Habits like birds flock with their own kind. One bad habit easily leads to another. Bad habits are only gradually assumed and the natural consequences of these require time to reach maturity. But we do well to remember that the Creek goddess, Nemesis, still keeps her eternal watch in the universe and allows no offense to go unchastised.

All excess is harmful. Excess means over-indulgence in the normal or wholesome things of life. The word excess is not correctly applied when used in reference to tobacco, opium, alcohol, etc., for this would imply that the use of these up to a certain point is normal and wholesome. Excess is more than the needs of the mind and body. It cannot be said that anything over the normal need of the mind and body for tobacco, alcohol, etc., is excess, for, the mind and body have no normal need for these things. Their use in any quantity is simply an unmitigated evil.

The human body is very largely a self-regulating organism. It is so constructed and arranged that if excessive demands are made upon it during youth and middle age, provisions for supplying these demands are made, "so that there seems to be no injury done to the body. No generally recognized sign is given that the demands upon the body's forces are in excess and that its reserve fund is being slowly consumed. The greater the demand made upon the forces of life, apparently the greater the supply. No truth is more certain, however, than that expressed by Sylvester Graham when he declared: "An intensive life is not compatible with an extensive life." The old song admirably expressed this fact in the words: "We never miss the water 'till the well runs dry." Solomon expressed it thusly: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily it is therefore fully written in the hearts of men to do evil."

Men are deceived by appearances. Protracted apparent impunity tempts to

repeated offenses. Indulgence in tobacco, for instance, is a bad habit and a slow poison, but the habit is continued because it does not produce immediate death. Because men are not knocked down every time they do a thing they refuse to believe it injures them. Because some one else has practiced a certain vice for a number of years without apparent harm they conclude they can do likewise.

The temperate man who eats to supply the needs of his body and does not gormandize merely to tickle his palate, has more real, genuine happiness in a single day than these short-life-and-a-merry people do in a whole year. The life of the temperate man is one of constant enjoyment. This is true in all things and not merely in eating. Even in sex, frequent indulgence robs it of its pleasures. The person who has trained himself to live in his higher faculties certainly enjoys life more than the one who lives only on the plane of his senses. Wholesome living is not antagonistic to pleasure. On the contrary it promotes and intensifies pleasure of the higher type. The life of indulgence is a short one, hut it certainly is not a merry one.

Mere prolongation of life is not what is desired. I have not met anyone who desires to live two hundred years, because he visualizes the last hundred and forty of these years as being lived in weakness and decrepitude. He pictures himself with false teeth, bald head, glass eyes and wooden legs, blind, deaf, toothless, mentally dull, physically helpless, senses dead, and hobbling along on a cane or pushed around in a chair, a burden to himself and to those around him, he could see no joy in living. *My plea is not for longevity as an end in itself, although length of life is certainly desirable, but for the enhancement of life while it endures; more years and better years; longer life and more life.*

XXVIII. General Care of Babies and Children

An infant may be born healthy or diseased, vigorous or feeble, beautiful or ugly. If the parents are healthy and sound and properly mated and if the mother has had proper care and especially proper nutrition during pregnancy, the infant should be healthy, vigorous and beautiful. In any event, the duty of the parents, after the child is born, is to care for it in a way to assure it good development, normal growth, excellent health and full strength. Comparatively few children are born with irretrievably bad organizations. Even delicate, puny infants, may be enabled to grow up healthy and strong in most instances, by means of careful, judicious and persevering physical culture, superior nutrition and good general care.

As a general rule the best advice that can be given to a mother is to go to the finest child specialist she can find, get all the advice he has to offer and, then, do exactly opposite to everything he advises. The advice of the child specialist is commonly so antinatural, his methods so artificial and destructive, the results of following his program so uniformly disastrous that, it were the worst folly to take him seriously.

A lady once explained how she had brought up her child, from the first, under the care and supervision of a child specialist. She explained to the other mothers present how she fed the child—recounting the usual crimes in feeding—and how many serums the child had been given. One mother remarked: “I’ll bet your child is very healthy.” She replied: “Healthy! Why, he has had every disease you can think of.” As a matter of fact the child was anemic and was much less healthy than the average child, whose mother does not depend on the advice of ex-spurts. This case is only one among many similar ones that support my oft-repeated statement that the best thing one can do in caring for a child is to get the advice of a noted specialist and then do just the opposite of everything he advises. The “scientific” care of children is too complicated, too damaging and is devoid of real merit, *Hygienic* care of children is simple, safe and full of virtue. In the present chapter we are going to discuss care after birth.

Breathing: Shortly after a baby is born it begins to breathe. This is followed immediately by a lusty cry which means vigorous action of the chest, diaphragm and lungs and a full inflation of hitherto unused lungs with air. Shortly after that little cry has heralded to the world the birth of another living child, the physician, mid-wife or attendant severs the cord through which it has secured not only its air, but its food and water, as well, during its nine months of intra-uterine life, and its existence as an independent being is fully launched. From this point onward, the needs of the child

are more complex and its care is no longer so simple.

Not all babies breathe immediately after birth. Such cases are due chiefly to the use of anesthetics, to a difficult birth, and to pressure upon the cord. Anesthetics and measures to hasten delivery should not be employed; anesthetics being justifiable only in those cases where surgical interference is essential. When baby does not begin to breathe promptly after birth, gentle spanking, dashing cold water on the face and chest, alternate immersion in hot and cold water, and artificial respiration are resorted to.

Immediate attention: As soon as the cord is severed and properly tied the child should be wrapped in cotton or other soft material and placed where it will be warm and undisturbed. After a few minutes to an hour, depending on the strength of the child, it should be carefully but quickly cleansed. The clean baby needs no other bath than one of plain luke-warm water. No soap or oil should be used. Never anoint a child's body with oil. Mothers who have had frequent intercourse during pregnancy will give birth to babies covered with a cheese-like substance called *vernix caseosa*. This substance can be removed by pledgets of cotton dipped in olive oil. The oil should then be thoroughly removed from the skin. As soon as the baby has been cleansed, it should be prepared for bed and permitted to sleep. No food should be given for the first twenty-four hours.

The Eyes: The eyes should be carefully cleansed with warm water and cotton pledgets. It will be well for the father to attend to this himself rather than trust it to an ignorant and careless nurse, for nurses are never trained to properly cleanse the eyes of infants. Infection of the eyes in infants is comparatively rare, and in cases where it does occur, proper cleansing after birth will prevent it. It is the medical practice to drop an antiseptic into the eyes, while others who have embraced the germ delusion use lemon juice. Thorough cleanliness is the thing needed. The eyes should be shielded from strong sun light or artificial light and from dust and wind.

The Mouth: There is no need for washing the mouth of a healthy baby; either at birth or subsequently. The mouth is self-cleansing, the saliva is a sterilizing fluid and in health prevents the mouth from becoming dirty. It is almost impossible to wash the mouth of a new-born baby without causing some irritation and injuring the delicate membranes and predisposing these to inflammation. Let the mouth alone.

The Nose: What is said of the mouth applies to the nose also. The orifices of the body are self-cleansing, as shown elsewhere in this volume.

The Ears: The external part of the ear should be washed daily with plain water. Keep out of the canal of the ear. There is always some wax in the external ear which should be let entirely alone.

The Genitalia: The genital organs should be kept scrupulously clean. In girls these should be washed during the bath with plain water and absorbent cotton. No soap or antiseptics should be used on these tender parts. Be careful to dry them thoroughly after each washing.

In boys the foreskin is almost always tight. There is nothing abnormal about this. Every other day, however, the foreskin should be pulled back and the secretion thoroughly washed away with plain water. Do not use boric acid, ointment or other drugs to smear the parts with, as is usually advised.

If the foreskin is very tight, so that cleanliness is difficult, it should be stretched each day until this difficulty is overcome. In some cases the prepuce is merely too tight to be retracted. In others it is so tight that it interferes with urination, being contracted in a few cases until the opening is no larger than a pin head. In such cases a sebaceous secretion of the glans penis, called smegma, accumulates under the foreskin, decomposes and causes considerable irritation and even more serious trouble. Dr. Lindlahr declares that “the intolerable itching caused by such irritation not infrequently leads to masturbation.”

Circumcision: This cruel and superstitious rite has been practiced by people in all parts of the earth since long before the dawn of history as a blood sacrifice. Within recent years, physicians and surgeons, finding it a profitable operation, have begun to advocate the circumcision of all male babies at birth. Every pretext used to defend the practice is false and there is never any need for this mutilating and always damaging operation. A long prepuce with contracted orifice is not sufficient reason for circumcision. Such a prepuce need not be permitted to allow the accumulation of secretion with the consequent irritation of the glans. It is a cruel, needless, mutilating operation resulting in contraction and deformity of the penis and the determination of the surgical profession to convert every Gentile male into a “*curtus Judaeus*” is not justifiable on any rational basis. Parents should protect their babies against this unwarranted assault by the surgeon. There is no more reason why male babies should be circumcised than there is that young huns, puppies, goats, etc., should be so mutilated. I was once visiting a mother who had just been advised by an expert to have her baby circumcised. I recalled to her mind how her father, a farmer, had found it necessary to circumcise his young bulls, stallions, horses, and male dogs and, thus, impressed upon her the urgent necessity of resorting to this old African superstitious rite in the case of her son, I believe in all the superstitions, even the “scientific” ones.

Circumcision is a barbarous and criminal procedure, whether done as a religious ceremonial or as a medical measure. It results in severe surgical shock to the delicate nervous system of the child and, where an anesthetic is employed in depressant

effects from this cause also. It not infrequently results in severe inflammation and much suffering and in a few cases in death. The medical notions that circumcision, like the pruning of a tree, results in better development of the boy and that it also tends to prevent venereal disease are rank nonsense. Jews are not better developed than Irish or French, while the fact that there is as much venereal disease among Jews as among other tribes is proof that circumcision is a mighty poor substitute for good behavior. In my book, *The Hygienic Care of Children*, I have covered this subject in greater detail.

Phimosis is the term applied to a tight foreskin and circumcision is the customary remedy. Among the ancient Egyptians and Jews and among the Jews of today, as well as among other peoples, circumcision was and is practiced as a religious rite.

In phimosis, if daily traction will not overcome it, a probe should be inserted and the part stretched. The foreskin should be drawn over the end of a syringe and warm water forced into the cavity between the glans and foreskin, to cleanse it. If necessary, a doctor may be called to dilate the foreskin with a dilator. It causes very little pain especially if done early and is soon over. In cases where the foreskin is adhered to the glans, it should be peeled loose.

The Navel: This is usually an object of much concern, except in the lower animals. It is the custom to wash it with antiseptics and put a “drying powder”—*arisol*, bismuth subgallate, etc.,—on it. A shield is then placed over the parts and the usual “bellyband” tied around the child. All of this monkey-work is pernicious and needless. Cleanliness is all the navel requires. Clean it with plain warm water and let it alone. If the navel is discharging and a strap is applied to it, so that the discharge is pent-up, infection is almost sure to follow.

The Skin: Two things are needed by the skin of a baby—*cleanliness* and *dryness*. Anything else is pernicious. A baby’s skin is tender and delicate and becomes irritated from slight causes. Soap, powders, oil, dampness, especially in the folds and creases of babies with the fat-bloat, soap-containing diapers, rough clothing, uncleanness, drugs, etc., irritate the skin.

Wash the baby in warm water. Use no soap or other unnatural preparation. Keep powders and oil—olive oil, lanolin, etc.—off its skin. Oil only succeeds in occluding the pores of the skin. Massage creams are worse and should not be employed. Powders often contain antiseptics; but are not to be used even where they do not. They are dirt, at best. Rough towels, rough cloths, etc., should not be used on a baby’s skin.

Chaffing: This is due to dirt, a wet skin, sweat or water left in the folds of fat on fat babies, over clothing, tight clothing, etc. The usual treatment disregards the

causes. Bran baths, powders, medicated and otherwise, sea-salt baths, vinegar, starch and boric-acid powder, etc., are the foolish procedures of the “do something” schools. If a child is washed in plain water, thoroughly dried after each bath, not allowed to acquire the fat-bloat and is not over clothed, its skin will not chafe. If it has been allowed to chafe there is nothing better for it than to expose the baby’s body to the air.

The Scalp: This should be washed every day with plain water. Soaps, shampoos, etc., are pernicious and should not be employed. Dry the hair thoroughly after each washing.

“*Cradle Cap*” is a scaly condition of the scalp seen in some babies. Medical treatment consists of shampoos, olive oil soaps, applications of boric acid salve, and scraping the scalp with a fine comb. All that is required is cleanliness and sun and air. Keep drugs and soaps and oil off baby’s head.

Bowels: The stools of a newborn are dark-green for two or three days after which they become brown. The stools resemble melted tar. There is, then, a gradual change from brown to yellow; by the end of the first week the stools should be a golden yellow. The foolish practice of some, of giving laxatives to babies to rid their bowels of this dark feces is pernicious in the extreme. For your child’s sake break yourself of this *doctoring* habit. Let the baby’s bowels alone and let them take care of their own function. Don’t begin to build chronic constipation in the child from the day of birth.

The Eyebrows: In her *Better Babies*, Anna Steese Richardson says: “Your child has a right to all the beauty with which you can endow it. If your baby has thin eyebrows and lashes, try to encourage their growth. It can be done. Feed the eyebrows with a little cocoa butter, or vaseline. If you are very careful you can even touch the lashes with a tiny camel’s hair brush dipped in melted vaseline. I know a man and wife whose looks were marred by scanty lashes and colorless brows. When their babies came the woman was determined to do something to improve the unfortunate inheritance. She rubbed vaseline into the brows, and had the lashes cut twice before the babies were three months old, asking the family physician, an excellent surgeon, to do this for her, and she touched the roots of the lashes with melted vaseline. Her children, now in their teens have beautiful brows and lashes.”

This is misleading bunk. The hair cannot be fed from without. Even if it could be, oil is not hair food and does not stimulate hair growth. Still less is vaseline, an inorganic grease, made from petroleum, of value. Cutting, the hair will not make it thicker or put hair where there is none. Cocoa-butter, olive oil, vaseline, hair tonics, etc., are without the least value. They all belong to the *doctoring* habit—directly descended from voodooism.

Stoadling Bands: As soon as baby is born it has to be wrapped up and girded with hoops and bands to prevent it from falling to pieces. Accordingly, a band is pinned snugly about its abdomen and it must wear the thing for several days—to prevent rupture—after birth. Pregnancy and parturition are also such unnatural conditions that nature is unable to meet such emergencies, so the mother must be tightly bound around the waist as soon as the baby is born to keep her from falling apart.

I once heard an ex-spurt explain to a mother, whose child was but a week old, how necessary it is to keep bandages around the baby's abdomen. As he talked, my mind ran to rabbits, puppies, kittens, calves and to young savages. Imagine an "early" Indian mother bandaging up the abdomen of her child to prevent it from falling apart! This mother was reared on the farm and I remarked to her that, she would remember how her father was in the habit of putting bands around the bodies of his calves, colts and pigs to prevent them from falling to staves. I suggested a couple of barrel hoops for her baby.

Injurious belly-bands about an infant's abdomen, often pinned as tightly as a woman's corset, diapers pinned so snugly about the waist and drawn so tightly between the legs as to produce discomfort and pain, make life very unpleasant for many infants. There is not the slightest reason why these abominable bands should be worn by either mother or child.

Medical works advocate the wearing of abdominal bands "as long as it is possible to buy them large enough (ten years), the reason for this being that it is important to protect the bowels from sudden changes in temperature or chilling even in older children." Why not also in adults? Surely bands can be made that are large enough for the biggest of us. The fact is that this band business belongs to the sick habit and the *doctoring* game and is injurious practice. There is no reason for these bands. These sudden changes of temperature are quite natural and man can meet them as well as rabbits or deer. E. B. Lowry, M.D., says, in *Your Baby* "A baby's bands should not be taken off until he has finished teething. Day and night, winter and summer, the baby should have flannel (not outing flannel) about his abdomen. He is far less likely to have summer complaint if he wears bands. After the first few months it is better to get the knitted ones with shoulder straps as these require no pins and there is no danger of them being too tight. For the first few months, the bands should be fastened snugly (not tight) so as to prevent rupture of the umbilicus."

No sensible, well informed parent will ever follow such insane advice. Keep these bands off of the baby from the first day of its life. Summer complaints, due to overfeeding, will not be prevented by such voodooism. When I read through a medical work on obstetrics, the strongest impression that comes to me is that it is

almost impossible for a woman to give birth to a baby. When I read through a medical work on the care of babies I get the impression that it is almost impossible for a baby to live. It seems that nature cannot take care of our babies as she did those of the “cave man” or as she does those of the lion or eagle. If we are not carefully held together with artificial bands we will rupture! Instead of compelling prospective physicians to spend three years in pre-medical training before they can enter medical college, why not compel them to spend two years on a ranch?

Ridges and red lines on the abdomen, made there by these strips of flannel, are seen on the abdomen of babies whose mothers have put them on as tightly as the belly-band of a saddle. Many a fretful, wakeful and crying baby has been doped and purged for colic whose suffering was the result of these tight bands. There is no earthly need for these bands to start with; there is still less need for them being drawn as tightly as the corsets of our mother’s girlhood days.

Helpless infants—stuffed, smothered, worried, swathed in thick clothing, their bodies squeezed and confined—are maltreated until their feeble little protests are choked by the grave. Every protest is met by drugs, serums, operations and other equally irrational and harmful procedures instead of being met by an intelligent correction of the cause of the protest.

Teeth: After advising regular brushing of the teeth of young children, medical men say: “Every child should be taken to the dentist as soon as it is three years old, or earlier, if necessary, and thereafter every six months.” What for? “In order that the teeth may be examined and any cavities which may have developed be filled while they are still small.” In plain English, these authorities do not expect the advice they give to mothers for the care of the teeth of infants to insure and preserve good teeth. They say in effect: Take our advice and then go to the dentist to “remedy” the results of following such advice. Filling a cavity does not correct or remove the causes that have produced the cavity and, therefore, does not prevent the cavity from becoming larger and the filling falling out. We reject the ideal of frequent examinations of the teeth, with early discovery and early filling of cavities. We insist on preserving the teeth whole. To this end, never permit the brushing of a child’s teeth before the child is fifteen years old, and not even after this age, if you value the teeth and gums of your child. Scrubbing away the gums and teeth of a child is a poor means of preserving its teeth. Such a program results in pyorrhea in many children around the age of thirteen. Health and a proper diet will produce and preserve good teeth.

Warmth: Infants and young children must be kept warm and not allowed to chill. They must not be over clothed or too heavily covered, but they must be kept comfortably warm. I believe in the good old-fashioned natural method of cuddling an

infant to warm it.

Clothing: Baby's clothing should be made of soft cotton, or linen. Wool should not be worn next to the skin. Clothing should be loose and simple and no more should be put upon the child than is necessary for comfort. Do not pamper and coddle the child. The child that is overwrapped, other things being equal, will have more colds than a child that most people would consider underclad. In the summer and in warm climates the rule should be: *Wear no more than enough clothes to keep out of jail.* In the case of infants a diaper will be enough. Let the baby be comfortable and cool. In older children a sun suit in warm weather is the near ideal. Dress the baby in his dainty complexion and let him stay cool. Place him where it is airy and cool, give him the coolest air you can find. Don't be afraid of air currents. In homes heated by hot air, hot water or steam, where a summer temperature is maintained at all times, children should be dressed in winter as in summer. They will require more clothing in homes heated by stove or fireplace.

Hats, bonnets, caps and oilier head-gear are for Indian chiefs and clowns. Keep them off baby's head. Except when the thermometer is down below freezing, there is no need to cover baby's head when it is taken out. Garters and tight bands are decidedly bad. Shoes should not be worn before the child walks and should be broad of toe with no heels.

Dr. Page says: "Babies are often tortured by too many and too tight-fitting garments, through the ignorance or carelessness of their attendants, or simply to gratify a mother's silly pride, and are treated in all respects, in many cases, more like a doll in the hands of a make-believe mother, than like a sensitive little human being entitled to every possible comfort, in the free use of the developing body, limbs, muscles and organs."

The summer night-dress should be a short, thin cotton or linen gown, or nothing but a diaper. Comfort at night means sound restful sleep. An overdressed and, therefore, overheated child is restless and does not sleep well. In winter the gown may be of heavier material and long enough to cover the feet. Over clothing and too much covering at night cause much suffering in infants and children. Dr. Page aptly remarked, overcareful parents often force their children to undergo such an amount of clothing and "tucking up" in bed, "as literally to constitute the 'dry pack,' a sweating process which is tolerable only for short intervals, being very depleting when long continued."

Diapers: or hip-pins, should be changed as soon as they are wet. The child should be sponged off and dried before another diaper is put on. Diapers should be light and loose. They should be washed before using and should never be merely dried,

without washing, and then used. Don't pin the diaper so snugly about the baby that all circulation of air about the parts is cut off. This will make the baby hot and uncomfortable. The diaper should then be washed before using again. Skin derangements are often caused by using diapers after they have been wet and dried without being washed. Keep the skin clean and there will be no chaffing, excoriation, scaling or skin irritations. These are caused by a lack of cleanliness—they are prevented and remedied by cleanliness.

I quote the following from Dr. Tilden: "It is not necessary for a child to have any malodors. Perfume is absurd; it neither covers the odor coming from lack of cleanliness, nor causes the child to be clean. There is no odor so splendid as the real sweetness of cleanliness. Perfume, like the doctor's antiseptic, is made to hide, or antidote, filth. Neither is needed when proper cleanliness is maintained; and both should be recognized as advertising lack of cleanliness."

Sleep: At birth the normal infant sleeps approximately 20 hours out of each twenty-four, during the first month. As it grows older the amount of sleeping it does grows somewhat less. From one month to six months the normal infant averages about sixteen hours of sleep a day; from six months to a year, about 15 hours; from a year to two years, about 14 hours; from two years to five years, eleven to fourteen hours.

The healthy infant sleeps more and sounder than the sick one. The more a baby sleeps the more it grows. Overfed infants do not sleep as well as properly fed ones. The acutely ill child that is fed hardly sleeps at all. It is fretful, restless and irritable, and cries most of the time. The acutely ill child that is not fed, or that is given fruit juices only, sleeps most of the time. It is less irritable and not so restless.

Sleep in infants and children should be encouraged. The sleeping infant should not be waked at meal time to feed it. Physicians and nurses make a lot of unnecessary fuss about regularity in feeding. This regularity is unnatural and unnecessary. Nature knows nothing of regularity in eating. Irregularity might almost be said to be the rule. If then, baby sleeps for an hour or more past feeding time it is well and good. If the child sleeps so long that a meal is missed entirely it is well. Never awaken a child to feed it.

Babies should be placed on their abdomen from the day of birth. In this way they develop their back, neck, arms and legs much more rapidly than when lying on their back. This is Dr. Page's method and is the best exercise of which I know for infants.

Place them on a hard bed, give them plenty of fresh air, do not bundle them up; keep stays, swaddling bands, caps, etc., off of them and give them a chance to kick and grow. Never put flannels on a child. Cotton or linen will answer far better. Nudity

is better still. Do not be afraid that baby will “catch cold.” A child that is properly cared for could no more have a cold than it could fly. You could freeze it to death, but you could not cause it to have a cold by exposure. Do not think from this, however, that you should expose the child unduly. Forget the old superstitions about night air.

As children grow older they should lie permitted to sleep as long as nature demands immediately after their noon meal each day. There is benefit and not injury in going to bed and to sleep immediately after eating. Children who do not secure this afternoon “nap” grow tired and cross and are prone to cry and fuss a great deal. Their health and growth suffer from this lack of sleep. The more they sleep, the better for them, and the afternoon nap will be good if they keep it up until they are a hundred or more years old.

A healthy child will sleep through the night if not disturbed. A child that is not over fed will not pass urine and feces at frequent intervals during the night. Overfeeding, overclothing, overheating, chilliness, soiled diapers, pain, discomfort from any cause—a loose safety pin, wrinkles in its clothes, etc. will cause a child to awaken. Physical comfort is the greatest sleep producer a child can have.

Keep the child always in a well ventilated room. I once went into a home where a young infant was kept in a gas heated room with the windows always down. The infant was never well and did not sleep well. I advised that the child be kept in an unheated, but well ventilated room. This advice was followed with happy results. Better sleep and improved health followed immediately. Infants cannot breathe without air. Give them plenty of it. Keep them out doors winter and summer. It is good for them. The baby’s face should never be covered or “tucked” in, but should remain fully exposed while in its crib or carriage.

Any alteration in the conditions surrounding the child after it has fallen asleep tends to distress or arouse it. It is a mistaken kindness to read or sing or rock babies and children to sleep, or to put them to sleep in a lighted room. For, when the sound is stopped or the rocking ceases or the light is turned out, this tends to disturb and awaken them. Let them learn, from the first, to sleep naturally, independent of surroundings; to be self-contained.

Water: Most authors urge frequent water drinking upon infants. Just now excessive water drinking is a fad and is heralded as almost a panacea. It is quite natural that baby must also become a victim of this senseless fad. My three children did not get water to drink until they were each a year old. Children on milk and fruit juices are on a diet that is almost all water and have no real need for a lot of chlorinated, iodized and mineralized water.

Crying: Dr. Oswald said: “Indian babies never cry; they are neither swaddled or cradled, but crawl around freely, and sleep in the dry grass or on the fur covered floor of the wigwam. Continued rocking would make the toughest sailor sea-sick. Tight swaddling is downright torture; it would try the patience of a Stoic to keep all his limbs in a constrained position for such a length of time; a young ape subjected to the same treatment would scream from morning till night.”

Healthy babies do not cry except from cold, heat, pain and discomfort (as from pins, wet diapers, folds in the clothing, tight bands, etc.) or from hunger. The baby that cries persistently is usually a sick baby. If baby cries, attend to his real needs, see that he is clean, comfortable, warm or cool, fed and dry, and let him alone. If he persists in crying for a time, let him cry; it will help to develop his lungs and hurt nothing.

One of the most common causes of crying is the vulgar habit of handling children too much. Fond parents, uncles, aunts, grandmothers, etc., who are anxious that baby be well cared for and not neglected at any time, pick it up and handle it at all times. The baby becomes so accustomed to being picked up and handled everytime anyone comes into the room that it learns to expect, even to demand this needless and enervating attention. If someone enters the room and does not pick him up immediately he begins to cry. If left alone for any length of time he cries. In time baby becomes such a tyrant that he refuses to permit himself to be put down. He is then a “spoiled” child. There is only one way to break the child of this folly and this is to let him “cry it out” a few times. Let him learn that he cannot get what he wants by crying for it.

Babies should be let alone from the start. Leave them alone in their cribs and they quickly learn to rest and sleep, or to play alone without crying. If over every crib there hung a sign with these words on it, *Let Baby Alone*, babies would grow and develop better and would cry less. Parents have themselves to blame when their baby develops into a “cry baby.”

Bathing: Daily bathing, or as often as needed, is necessary to cleanliness. Luke warm water should be employed. No soap should be used. The warm bath may be followed by a cool (not cold) splash. Then the child should be thoroughly dried. By all means do not soak all the vitality out of your child as many mothers do. The quicker a child is thoroughly cleansed and dried, the better for its health and strength.

Air and Sun Baths: A daily air bath should be given the infant and child and a sun bath every day the sun shines.

Handling: Most babies are handled too much. The young of no other species can withstand so much handling and survive. Kittens, puppies, goslings, calves, birds,

indeed all young animals soon languish and die if handled very much. Man, including infant man, can live through more abuse of all kinds, than any other animal on earth. Nevertheless millions of infants are injured in health and many of them killed by being subjected to too much handling. The following words of Dr. Trall are to the point: “Never mistake infants for toys or playthings. Never employ them to amuse yourself or entertain company. Never exhibit them for the purpose of reflecting inherited charm and qualities of which the parents are proud—perhaps justly.”

Rocking: Babies should never be rocked. The old habit of rocking babies to sleep is particularly pernicious. A baby that is properly cared for does not have to be “put to sleep,” nor petted into going to sleep. It may be placed in its crib and left alone. It will then fall asleep without any fuss.

Exercise: Trall declared that “the business of infants is to grow” and that, to grow normally they must have exercise. The exercise of infants and children is self-regulating, if they are given an opportunity to express themselves, physically. The best exercise for infants, said Trall, is *letaloneativeness*. Place them on a smooth surface, do not bind and cramp them, throw off their clothes and let them exercise in a natural manner. Elastic baby jumpers and other such contrivances are not commendable.

The best exercise in the world for the baby is to place it face down on the bed or palate and let it work. This is Dr. Page’s method. Laying on its back, its back and neck muscles are never exercised, while they are overheated. The back, neck, arm and legs get the best form of exercise when the baby is face down. It develops a strong neck and back and sturdy arms and legs. Place them on their faces from the day of birth. They will be better babies for it.

Baby needs fresh air and sunshine from the beginning. As it grows let it live much in the open air; let it play, sing, shout and laugh. Growth is the principle thing. This should not be repressed nor fettered. If you would lay deeply and firmly in your child’s constitution the foundations of a vigorous and beautiful manhood or womanhood, you must secure to it all of the essentials of healthy growth and carefully protect it from all deleterious influences. The greatest evil that can come into your child’s life is the poison-dispensing physician. Carefully guard your child against him and all that he stands for.

XXIX. The Symbiotic Society

The “struggle for existence” is normally no selfish, tiger-like struggle for self alone, but involves a “struggle” for the life of others, for Nature makes a claim for reciprocal service. The truly “fittest” have survived through love and sacrifice, sociability and cooperation. These are the aristocrats of creation who do not depend on mere bulk of numbers (mass reproduction) to keep the species alive.

Darwinism condoned the grab spirit, hence its ready acceptance in a society based on competition and exploitation. Just as in the body, loyal cooperation of all the parts is essential and each and every part depends greatly upon this beneficence, so in society, socioeconomic reciprocity is essential to social integrity and economic health. In symbiosis are the primordia of a socio-economic system that will truly serve man.

It is a sociological principle that the union of individual forces engenders great advantages. Symbiosis is the application of this principle in nature. Socialism is its application in society. It is the principle of cooperation instead of competitive struggle in human affairs. We cannot go on forever interpreting Nature in terms of the chaotic, diabolical and abnormal; the Devil must be dethroned from biological and sociological overlordship.

Cannibalism, slavery, feudalism, capitalism and every form of parasitic or non-symbiotic exploitation is socially and economically, as well as biologically, bad. Chattel slavery is the ownership of man by man; Feudalism is private ownership of land on which men work; Capitalism is the private ownership of the machinery of production and distribution. The essence of all three is exploitation—the exploitation of the many who work by the few who own—those who work the workers, farm the farmers, mine the miners and milk the milkers. We have a large class of people who think that they are entitled to certain luxuries, that these luxuries are theirs by right, that is, without them having to perform useful service to earn them, and that it is right and proper for the “common people” to do without these luxuries and even, in large numbers of instances, to get along as well as they may without many of the necessities of life, even though these “common people” are busy producing the luxuries that belong “of right” to the former class.

Morality is action for the sake of social ends rather than for personal gratification. Socialism is the only true form of morality possible—all forms of exploitation are immoral, both in principle and in fact. They are forms of robbery. A social and economic system that is not based on symbiotic cooperation cannot be permanent.

Socialism is the social ownership and democratic control of socially used

properties. It does not destroy private ownership, but confines it to those properties that are privately used. Railroads, telephone lines, telegraph systems, etc., that are socially used would be socially owned. Homes, automobiles, etc., that are privately used would be privately owned. Thus, socialism is not communism, which demands the abolition of all private property.

State ownership, state control (bureaucracy), state planning, state medicine, etc., giving us the so-called “welfare state,” is not socialism, but *stateism*. It may properly be called state capitalism, it may easily evolve into an industrial feudalism with the state as the lord. It is almost certain to degenerate, into dictatorship. It should be known that neither Roosevelt nor Truman ever made any effort to inaugurate socialism in this country. It is also well to understand that no socialism was attempted in England.

Socialism is not a form of government, but it cannot exist under a dictatorship, as true socialism requires the democratic control of the socially owned properties. It necessitates the freedom of the individual with no regimentation of thought and action. The true socialist does not expect to violently overthrow the state; he does not expect to see it suddenly destroyed, but he does expect it to slowly wither and perish, as its exploitative function is taken from it. The true socialist is an ultimate anarchist.

Socialism is not a religion. It will not outlaw religion. It will merely put an end to the use of religion as an agent of exploitation. When this is done, all that is sound and good in any religion will be automatically separated from that which is not sound and not good, and religion will be purified and refined. Religious people, themselves, will do the refining and purifying. Any religion that dies under socialism will die because there is nothing in it that is sound and good.

Our present competitive; system a system in which the big fish eat the little fish; where every man's hand is against his neighbor—breeds evils that no amount of reform can remedy. Revolutionary and radical changes are essential. Parasitic and predatory wealth must be restored to its symbiotic producers and the robbers dethroned.

Symbiotic cooperation is the source of the wealth of the world. Individuals who have “sticky fingers” and take unto themselves unearned shares of the produce of the collective efforts of the workers, weaken the whole social body. In their struggle for more trade, more territory, more oil fields, more coal mines, etc., they produce wars and fill the earth with suffering.

Dr. W. R. C. Latson says in *The Enlightened Life*; “Business is ugly and abominable—as ugly and abominable as the scrimmage of so many wolves vigorously engaged in the hideous pastime of dismembering and devouring a disabled

comrade. Business, is the ethics of the jungle reduced to its lowest terms, and practiced by human beings very much addicted to the entirely hypocritical conception that they are superior to all other mammals that walk the earth.”

“Business is brutal ... Its shibboleth is ‘give me your dollar;’ its motto is ‘your dollar or your destruction.’”

Modern business is carried on for private gain rather than for public service. Goods are produced for profit not for use. Business is wasteful, inefficient, cruel and opposed to all that is highest and best in man. Based upon the profit motive and competition, it quickly brings out all that is low, mean and selfish in those who indulge in it. There can be no brotherhood of man in a competitive world, and religion, instead of serving its professed purpose in meeting the emotional or spiritual needs of man, must remain the class instrument it now is.

The great increase in the productive power of machinery and the great advances which have been made in the arts and sciences will enable us, as soon as we become willing to do it, to beautify and cultivate every habitable portion of America and convert it into a vast farm, garden, orchard and park. We can cover the whole land with durable structures of the most superb examples of architecture, bring transportation and sanitation to the highest point of perfection, eliminate the hazards of industry, shorten the hours of labor, provide a real and full education for everyone and completely abolish poverty. America may be made to blossom as the rose and the Paradise of Eden may become the home of happy, contented and beautiful men and women.

We can provide proper food and opportunities for development for everybody. We can develop our minds, our bodies and our spirituality together. Health, strength, youth, beauty and happiness— these should be the rewards that we seek and not place, power and pelf. We can have a new civilization motivated by new and higher ideals—a civilization in which the ideals of beauty, service and sterling worth of character dominate.

The four fundamental necessities for the production of plenty for all are: (1) Natural resources; (2) Machinery and tools of production; (3) Man-power—labor; (4) Technical and Engineering knowledge.

The struggle of man in the past has been against scarcity. For the first time in the world’s history we have the means of providing plenty for all, and can at the same time, shorten the hours of labor so that those who have been overworked and denied the advantages of the outdoors may have these advantages and no longer be overworked. As examples of our present productive possibilities a few years ago, we had need for a little over 300,000,000 pairs of shoes a year in this country; we had

shoe-making machinery enough to produce 900,000,000 pairs of shoes, or three times as many as we could use. Our present productive capacity is much greater.

Today we have the mills, mines, machinery, tools, forests and farms, the technological knowledge, the skill and labor to produce an abundance for all. As examples of the kind of machinery that is available, today one man can weave 500 square yards of cloth; another can spin 1,600 pounds of yarn; another can make 350,000 capscrews in a single day. Skilled and unskilled workers and technological experts are abundant and anxious to work. Our land is a land of schools and is overflowing with capable teachers. The United States possesses vast natural resources—land, forests, oil, minerals—enormous productive capacity—mills, mines, machinery, tools—great numbers of willing and skilled laborers and the technological knowledge with which to produce an abundance for all.

In spite of all this our nation entered into an economic and industrial collapse in 1929 and presented us with the appalling spectacle of thousands hungry and in rags while the warehouses of the land were bursting with their burdensome goods. Homeless people built “Hooverilles” outside the limits of the cities, while there were thousands of vacant houses on every hand. We called it over-production—people were hungry because we had produced too much food; they were in rags because we had produced too much clothing; they went barefooted because we had produced too many shoes; they were homeless because we had built too many houses; they went without baths because we had produced too many bath tubs; they walked the highways because we had produced too many automobiles.

We elected a new president and he surrounded himself with a “brain trust” and, together, these tried many forms of pump-priming expedients, but we remained in this state of economic collapse with millions unemployed and hungry, until the end of 1941 when war provided us with a temporary economic boost. We slaughtered every third pig, killed every third cow, ploughed up every third row of corn and cotton and destroyed much produce in our effort to get started again. No heed was given to my suggestion that we also burn every third house and kill every third working man. As we were trying to get rid of our surplus, killing off workers for whom we had no need seemed to me to be as logical as burning food.

The fact is that, there was no surplus. We had simply produced more goods than the wages of the workers would enable them to buy. Under-consumption was our real trouble, but it seems to make a man happier if he knows that he has starved to death because of overproduction rather than because of underconsumption.

Workers were idle, mines and mills were closed, factories were shut down, farms lay fallow, tools rusted, while a hundred million people lived below the level of

plenty, and want and fear of want haunted fifteen million homes. Schools were closed. Children roamed the streets, teachers joined the bread-lines. We were a nation of starving, half-starving, poorly sheltered, bluffed slaves, whimpering and whining about the depression and looking for some miracle man to remedy conditions. We had everything we needed to provide an abundance for all, but it belonged to a few private owners who would not permit a wheel to turn or a worker to produce unless they could make a profit out of the product. A dispossessed people found themselves at the mercy of the class that owns instead of working for a living—the “better class” that fights the “struggle for existence” through substitutes.

Capitalism collapsed because it could no longer produce and distribute goods at a profit. Few people realize it, but capitalism is still unable to function in a peace-time economy. The private owners of the nation’s natural resources and of the tools of social production, however, are well aware of this fact, hence their fear of peace. This is the reason the stock market sags every time a rumor of “impending” peace is circulated.

Even now, as I write these lines, although we are engaged in a costly war in Korea, one that we have not tried to win, but to continue, a war that keeps us in a war-time economy, we are paying high taxes to pay farmers to withhold land from production, to pay farmers subsidies so they may live, to buy up large quantities of farm produce and store these in warehouses to rot or be destroyed, for otherwise, under our boasted “free enterprise” system, the farmers who produce our food would live in poverty and want. It should be patent to even the man of no knowledge of economics that, there is something radically wrong with an economic system in which the farmer must be subsidized from public taxes to enable him to live.

There is something radically wrong with an economy which, in peace time, finds it necessary to create an artificial scarcity in order to keep its machinery of production going. An economy that can function only under conditions of scarcity, that collapses under abundance, cannot be expected to provide for all of the people all of the time. When people have to pay high taxes to provide money with which to buy their own goods and give it away in foreign *markets* in order to prevent their own industrial and economic collapse, this should open their eyes to the true character of the economic chaos under which they exist. When workers have to go out on strike, this is, when production has to be discontinued and income cut off, and be clubbed by policemen and fined by the courts and suffer, together with their families, for days, weeks and months in order to secure a slight increase in pay with which to meet the ever rising cost of living, while the owners of industry pile up millions, it should be obvious to even the most rabid defenders of “free enterprise,” that, the economic system under

which we live is evil, anti-social, inhuman and universally degrading.

That under this system men of science are forced to prostitute their skills and knowledge to the service of profit-hungry ghouls, that radio commentators are reduced to the position of glorified liars in advertising the wares of their sponsors and of slanting the news as their bosses want it slanted, that poetry, and music and the dance, that sport and play and similar activities of man that should be spontaneous expressions of abundant life, have been made into professions and that women denude themselves and dance before men in theatres, strip in the strip-tease, sing suggestive songs to titillate the gonads of the men in the audience, that such things exist under capitalism, as they did under feudalism and chattel slavery, should convince even the morally blind that, capitalism degrades everything it touches. That blind Homers still sing on the streets of New York, London and Paris for rags and crumbs as they did in Athens three thousand years ago, that prostitution, although divorced from religion and no longer a source of income for the priesthood, is still rampant throughout the world, is a disgrace to capitalism and to all religious systems that support capitalism. The exploitation of sex in advertising, the technique of the “big lie” employed by all advertising specialists, the sordid use of human emotions and sentiments as a means of dragging money out of the people, the production of shoddy but lacquered goods that appeal to the eye—these and a thousand similar things reveal the utter depravity of capitalism in all of its many and various ramifications. American capitalism, in particular, is dedicated to planned waste in the interest of profits.

The American people, in their blind resentment against the corruption, graft, inefficiency and ineptitude of the Truman administration, have just returned the corrupt Republican party to power. Am I indulging in mere wish-thinking when I suggest that four years of republican misrule and utter failure will open the eyes of the American people to a full realization that neither of the parties of capitalism—two wings of the same old vulture without both of which it cannot fly—can perform a miracle and make the collapsed and dying system function again? Will they, in 1956, demand and get a real change, and not merely a change of personnel? Has America elected her last capitalistic president—she has known no other kind since she started electing supporters of capitalism, beginning with the stupid Lincoln and, I hope, ending with Eisenhower.

We are a nation of bluffed slaves; afraid of the parasites that prey upon us and suck our lifeblood. We are bluffed by the private owners of our industries; bluffed by the police, bluffed by the militia; bluffed by the courts; bluffed by the politicians; bluffed into a timid submission to hunger and rags. America, who proudly boasts that

she is the land of the free and the home of the brave had become the land of the craven and the home of the slave, where men, starving, seedy and afraid were seen timidly whimpering for “aid,” for the cold crumbs of capitalistic charity.

Under private ownership of industry there is great waste, much unnecessary duplication of effort and many kinds of superfluous work. There is neither system nor order, but chaos. There is no remedy for this thing until the producing millions, fully aware of where the real source of trouble lies, arise in their collective might and forever destroy all systems of exploitation and build a cooperative commonwealth. In the not distant future society will be forced to take over our present industries and dispossess their idle owners and collectively exercise the power of producing, exchanging, transporting and distributing wealth. This will forever put an end to industrial crises with their accompanying misery and starvation.

When human society collectively owns and masters our jobs, there will be no profit takers to filch from us what we produce and own. This means industrial democracy instead of capitalistic autocracy; freedom instead of slavery; plenty for all instead of misery and starvation for the masses; social and economic planning instead of social and economic disorder; socialism instead of capitalism; life instead of death.

XXX. The Genesis and Development of Hygiene

Unacquainted with the structures and functions of the human body and incapable, for the most part, of tracing the evolution of disease and, at the same time, steeped in the grossest superstition, ancient and medieval peoples had built up a system of “medicine” or, more correctly, several systems of “medicine,” all of them having much in common, that had no relation to life. It was inevitable that, as knowledge of physiology and anatomy increased, a time would arrive when an effort would be made to establish a system of body-mind care, both in health and illth, upon the laws of physiology, and to abandon the superstitious practices that had grown out of ancient magic. This effort resulted in the creation of the *Hygienic System*.

The men who founded the *Hygienic System* attempted to build upon the bedrock of natural law and their success in doing so attests to their good judgement. Superstition that is so old, honored, well organized and that had become a vested interest, as was *medicine*, is not, however, easily destroyed and it does not willingly lie down and die. Rather, it fights for its existence with every weapon at its command. The fact, therefore, that the old system still exists and still retains a firm grip on the public is not half so surprising as are the efforts of its professionals and theoreticians to prove that it is established upon a physiological basis.

It is always a dangerous thing to serve as midwife at the birth of a new truth or a new movement. Courageous men who defied the gibes and jeers of the mob; honest men who spoke and lived the truth as far as they understood it; determined men who let nothing stand in the way of their efforts to bring new life to the world; sincere men who knew no compromise with ancient error; self-sacrificing men who worked themselves to death for the truths they had discovered; brilliant men who would have been classed as geniuses had they devoted their powers to popular causes, brought the *Hygienic System* into being. Such were the men and women who labored that the world might have light and life, that the people might have health and happiness and be freed from the fear of disease. So successful were their labors that today millions profit by practicing part of the things they advocated without ever having heard of them and their labors. They did not labor in vain and someday the world will confer upon their names the honors they so richly deserve.

No broad, comprehensive and complex system, such as the *Hygienic System*, ever comes into existence full blown. Commonly, it begins simply and develops as it progresses. At first, it is lacking in much that it acquires as it evolves; it also makes many mistakes that must be eliminated as it develops. The most that its founders can usually hope to achieve is to sketch in its broad outlines, perhaps establish a few

fundamental principles and indicate the direction in which it should progress. It remains for those who come after them to fill in the details, extrude the costly errors, develop other and auxiliary principles and perfect its practices. The system of *Natural Hygiene* should not be expected to be different in this respect from astronomy, geology, biology, anthropology or other science. Perfection was not attained by its founders; perfection has not yet been attained by its living practitioners and professors. There remain much to be discovered; many improvements in its application to be worked out; differences of opinion to be resolved; and problems galore to be solved. The future will bring with it great advances in *Natural Hygiene*. The next hundred years should be as fruitful in advance as the past hundred years have been. Our greatest need at present is sincere workers, who will devote their lives to *Hygienic* advancement.

During the years that have passed since the birth of the *Hygienic Movement*, many earnest and sincere students have attacked its problems and added to our knowledge of *Hygiene*. Many discoveries in the various fields of science, especially in the biological sciences, have greatly helped to advance the knowledge of *Hygiene*. But it has been found hard to shake off old dogmas and superstitions and few of the students who added to our knowledge, capable and earnest though they were, have been able to completely divorce themselves from many theories and practices that were really foreign to *Hygiene*. Thus, there is the ever present problem, not alone of correcting old errors, but of avoiding new ones. As many of the older *Hygienists* included a “little drugging” in their practices, almost all of them employed hydropathy, and many of them made use of electrotherapy, so many of the present day *Hygienists* (probably they should be designated *near-Hygienists*) insist upon mixing certain of the methods developed by the several drugless schools with their *Hygiene*. It is important that we strive to maintain the purity and integrity of the *Hygienic System*.

Beginnings are not always easily discerned, but we must begin somewhere. Here I shall depart, somewhat, from my usual order in relating the story of the development of the *Hygienic System* and start with the man who was acknowledged by his contemporaries as the man who discovered the basic principles of *Hygiene* and provided most of its philosophy and was said to be the father of the *Hygienic System*. I refer to Russell T. Trall, M.D., who founded the world’s first college of Hygeiotherapy, and conducted the first *Hygienic* institution for the care of the sick. There were forerunners and he received great help from his contemporaries, these shall be given attention as we proceed, but Trall was the man who systematized *Hygiene*, made it into a distinct school of thought and practice and made the world conscious

of the fact that there was a new and better way of life available to all.

One of his contemporaries writing in 1865 said of him: “While others have done much to agitate the public mind, and develop great truths in the healing art, it was left to him to solve the great primary problems which underlie all medical systems, and to base a theory of medical science, and a system of the Healing Art on the laws of Nature themselves. No author except him has ever traced medical problems back to their starting point, and thereby discovered their harmony or discrepancy with universal and unalterable law. In this manner he has been enabled to do what no author before him ever could do, viz, explain the nature of disease, the effects of remedies, the doctrine of vitality, the *Vis Medicatrix Naturae*, and the law or conditions of cure. His philosophy goes back of all medical systems and proves to a positive demonstration the fallacy and falsity of medicating diseases with poisonous drugs. Hygienic medication, therefore, is, with him, a system, full, perfect, complete, and of universal application. Knowing that the system he teaches is grounded in scientific truth, he boldly challenges all the medical men and all the scientific men of the earth to meet it and oppose it; but no one accepts the challenge, although they continue to drug and dose their patients into premature graves.”

This writer claims for Trall much that he did not profess to have done. For example: Trall denied that there is any such thing as a “law of cure,” he did not profess to have discovered such a “law.” He did profess to know the conditions of healing, but he thought that we could well dispense with the word *cure* and the complex of ideas that cluster about it. Nor would he have professed to have believed that *Hygiene* was perfect or complete. He knew, as we do, that there was and is much yet to be learned. Indeed, he used to tell the members of his classes that he was presenting them with the broad outlines of *Hygiene*, that they and those who came after would have to fill in the details. He said: “I give you these principles in condensed form, but you will have to elaborate them after I am gone; make them plain to the common people, and the average reader.” Perfection, it has been truly said, is not of man nor the works of man. It is a goal towards which we strive unceasingly, but which we have not attained in anything.



Dr. Russell T. Trall

Born August 5, 1812 on a farm in Vernon, Conn., Trall's boyhood was spent in sickness, and the physicians of his day could not help him although they bled and dosed him heroically, after the vogue of the period. It was in order to help himself that he decided to study medicine. First serving an apprenticeship under a physician (a common practice) and afterwards taking courses in medicine at Castleton, Vt., and at Albany, N. Y., he then went into practice and practiced regular medicine for a period of twelve years. He investigated the principles and practices of the other schools of medicine then extant in America—the homeopathic, eclectic, physico-medical and chrono-thermal schools—and tested their principles in his practice.

Trall was one of those rare geniuses who help to make every year of the world's history an epoch of progress. Having studied medicine as, perhaps, no other man had ever done, with no idea of acquiring a profitable trade or profession, but solely with the aim of self-preservation, he was almost of necessity a close and critical scholar and an impartial and unprejudiced truth-seeker. He began to suspect the theories and practices of medicine almost before he had completed his course of studies and to suspect the "remedies" then in use to be "not only injurious but dangerous." Thus, before he received his degree in medicine he had become very skeptical with regard to much of the so-called medical science of the world. Having no love for nor any interest in any system that was not founded on truth, and being determined to satisfy himself, if possible, what was true and what was false, he investigated theoretically and tested experimentally all of the medical systems then in vogue, his observations and experiences leading him away from drugs of all kinds, under all circumstances and in doses of any size. Years later, one of his professors remarked to a reader of

Trall's journal: "*I never expected Trall to amount to much*". This remark reveals what is thought of a student who questions what he is taught.

After twelve years of regular practice, Trall opened an office in New York City near one of the large hospitals, where he received the most desperate cases that the hospital failed to help. He began a hydropathic (water cure) practice, using no drugs of any kind. So remarkable was his success that he says he never gave another drug thereafter. All of his desperate patients recovered. A man of Trall's intellectual calibre could not be satisfied, however, for long with a "water cure." Successful as it appeared to be in the care of the sick, Trall realized that it was not basic, that more was needed than water applications. The medical historian, Shryock, says: "What Trall and his followers really did, was to super-impose Grahamism upon hydrotherapy and later, in the most catholic spirit imaginable, to add every other hygienic procedure available. Trall acknowledged his indebtedness to Graham and Preissnitz (Silesian founder of the water cure) but claimed to improve upon both."

As Trall grew with the years he employed less and less of hydrotherapy and more and more of *Hygiene*, so that, starting as a hydropathic physician, he evolved into a *Hygienist*. Dr. Susanna W. Dodds, one of his graduates, says of him in her masterly work on *Hygieio-Therapy*: "In the history of this world-wide reform the fact must ever remain, that while Hydropathy paved the way for the introduction of Hygieiotherapy, it was Trall who reduced the new methods to a science. He combined in one great system the use of all the hygienic agents; though many of his best thoughts on dietetics, etc., were derived from Dr. Sylvester Graham, who was his intimate friend, and perhaps equally talented. Trall once said of Graham that he came as near discovering the truth of Hygieio-therapy as any one could, not to do it."

As I shall deal with Graham later, but few words may be said of him at this point. It seems necessary to point out here that when Trall added "Grahamism" to hydropathy, he added "every hygienic procedure available," for Graham had considered all phases of hygiene. Graham missed the discovery of "Hygieiotherapy," not so much by any omissions of hygienic factors in his program of care of the body as in certain parts of his theoretical considerations. It must be said, in all fairness to the man, also, that, not being a physician, but a preacher, he devoted more attention to the care of the healthy person, to the end that he shall remain healthy, than to the care of the sick.

Dr. Dodds says of Trall that: "The mind of Trall was strictly analytical; he examined his premises carefully, and conclusions were logically drawn. The doctrines that he advanced, whether in *Life Illustrated*, the *Water Cure Journal*, or in his books, were not only interesting and instructive, but sensational. No such brilliant

thinking on these subjects had ever before been done. The consequence was, that his writings, though revolutionary and schismatic, were carefully studied and often severely criticised. Trall was in the zenith of his intellectual powers. His thoughts were clean cut, his arguments forcible; and woe to the adversary who challenged him to debate. He always came out victor. The truth as he portrayed it was so self-evident, that his readers wondered why these things had not occurred to them before. By his admirers he was loved and venerated in the highest degree; by his adversaries he was hated, and often misrepresented. But in the work to which he gave his life he was without a peer; and the principles that he has left behind him will remain as a perpetual legacy to mankind. Through his writings alone, the name of Trall will long be an honored word in this and other lands. There are thousands yet unborn, who will live to do him honor, to render that tardy justice, which, though it come late, is due to the brave and fearless pioneer of a great reform.”

Distrusting the theories and practices of his profession, Trall began an investigation of the premises of medicine and their relations to nature and finding them, as he says, “self-evident absurdities,” set himself the task of discovering the premises that must underlie a true system of caring for the well and the sick. Thus, he was both an iconoclast and a builder. Without a doubt he was one of the most prodigious workers who ever lived; and it is largely due to his untiring labors that the *Hygienic* movement made the progress it did in the early days of its history. He was an investigator, missionary, crusader, scholar, thinker, writer, lecturer, professor, editor and a doctor, all tied up in one dynamic bundle.

He undertook, in the words of Dr. Dodds, “a work so extensive that it could scarcely be compassed by a single mind. First he must shake the public confidence in an institution venerable with age, its history reaching far back into the shadows of the past. Next he must place in its stead a new system, in every way unlike the old, and with scarcely a friend to defend it. The principles underlying it must also be clearly expounded, and speedily put into practice. How much of this work he actually did is next thing to marvelous; and his failures, if such they were, might rather be termed successes, judged by the immense progress that has been made in hygiene since his death. He left the work clearly defined, so clearly indeed, that those who followed had but to pick up the broken threads of the warp, splice them, and weave on; filling in woof, and completing the wonderful web whose patterns he was permitted only to design.”

The world’s first college of Hygeio-therapy was founded in New York City in 1852, and chartered by the state of New York in 1857. It inaugurated a new era in the care of the sick. Its advent ushered in an epoch in the “healing art.” The *Hygienic*

school was the first school in the world, and so far the only one to adopt hygienic things— that is, materials and influences that have a normal relation to life— exclusively in the care of the sick, rejecting wholly and totally, as not only unnecessary, but positively injurious, all the poisons of the *materia medicas* of the various schools of “medicine.” It not only introduced a *Materia Hygienica* to displace the *Materia Medica* (more appropriately, the *Materia Morbus*), but it also introduced a new theory and philosophy in biological science, at variance with and in opposition to all the fundamental doctrines or dogmas on which medical systems have been built. Briefly, it claims to have ignored the falsities of the old systems and to have based its philosophy and its practices on unerring and demonstrable laws of nature.

Trall also conducted a college of *Hygiene* in St. Paul, Minn., during the two years that he was located at St. Anthony’s Falls. After he returned east and moved to Florence Heights, N. J., the college was moved to this latter place, where it continued to operate until financial difficulties forced its closing a year or two before the death of Trall. Graduates of Trall’s college served as surgeons in the northern Armies during the Civil War and made an excellent record for themselves. Dr. Dodds says that for more than twenty years, “from different states in the Union, from the Canadas and even from abroad, there came to him men and women to learn those great principles which he was expounding in his books, and also teaching year after year to his medical classes.

It was not until the rise of osteopathy that any of the schools graduated its students with any degree other than that of “Doctor of Medicine.” The school founded by Nichols, that of Trall and, later the one founded by Dodds, all conferred the degree in medicine upon their graduates. In the writer’s opinion, this was a very unfortunate mistake. *Hygienists* should have differentiated themselves from all of the schools of so-called healing (medicine) in every possible manner. They should have repudiated the term physician and the phrase “Hygienic medication.” Even the title doctor, a reactionary term adopted by the schoolmen to set themselves apart from and above the “laity,” might well have been left behind. They should have called themselves simply, *Hygienists*. But if they wanted to retain the title doctor, they should have been *Doctors of Hygiene*.

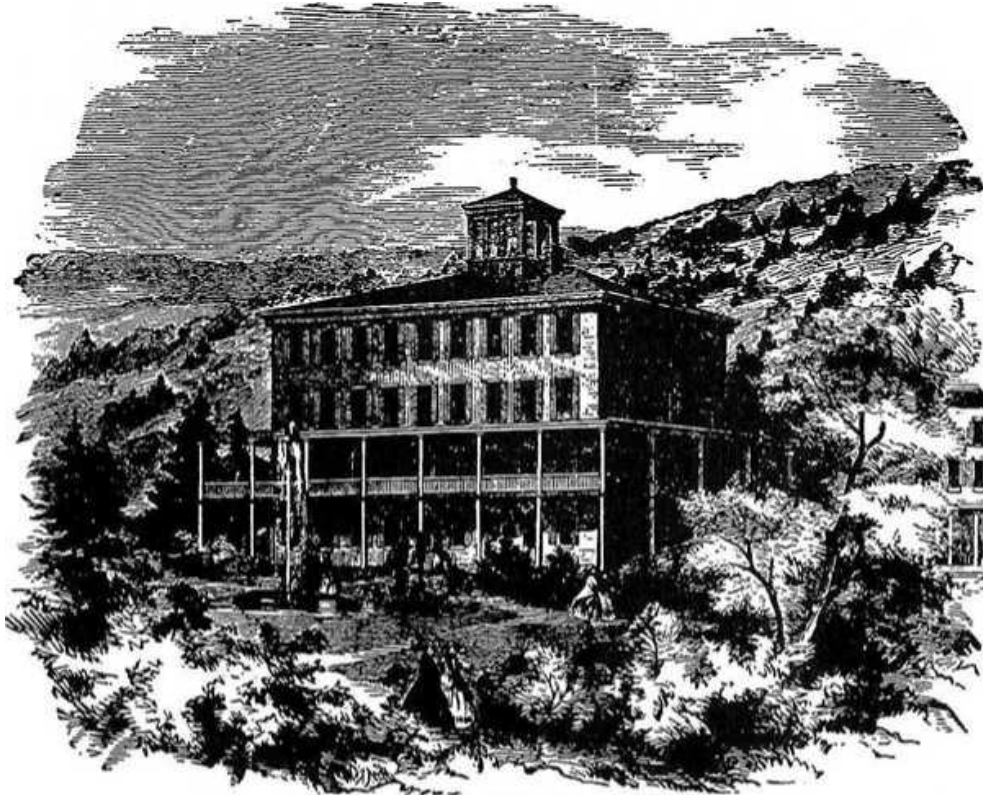


**HYGIENIC INSTITUTE,
No. 15 Laight Street, New York.**

Trall's death on September 23, 1877 left the movement practically leaderless. With the college closed, Trall gone, and no one ready and willing to take the helm the movement lagged. There were men who could have led, but they seem to have been reluctant to do so. Indeed, a certain amount of disagreement broke out among them that tended to further paralyze action. In this writer's opinion, Dr. Walter was the man preeminently qualified for the position of leadership. Unfortunately he spoiled his opportunity to do so by publishing an ill-advised attack upon the dead leader. A few years later Dr. Dodds did make an effort to start the movement going again. Her establishment of another college was a big move in this direction. Had it succeeded, a revival of the movement would have followed. But with the adoption of a part of the *Hygienic* program by the "regular" profession there was a tendency to sit back and let the medical profession "do it." *Hygienists* permitted themselves to be misled. I have seen the same mistake made by others within my own lifetime. We seem never to learn that "medicine" will not reform.

As I pointed out in the opening of this chapter, beginnings are often so obscure and confused that it is not always possible to place one's finger precisely on the beginning of a new movement. I shall arbitrarily date the beginning of the *Hygienic* movement with the start of Graham's crusade for *Hygienic* reform, not because

nothing had been done prior to this date (Jennings had, as a matter of fact discarded drugs ten years earlier and begun a *Hygienic* practice), but because, here was the beginning of a crusade and a movement. I do not think that the chronological dislocation that is evident in this account will confuse the story.



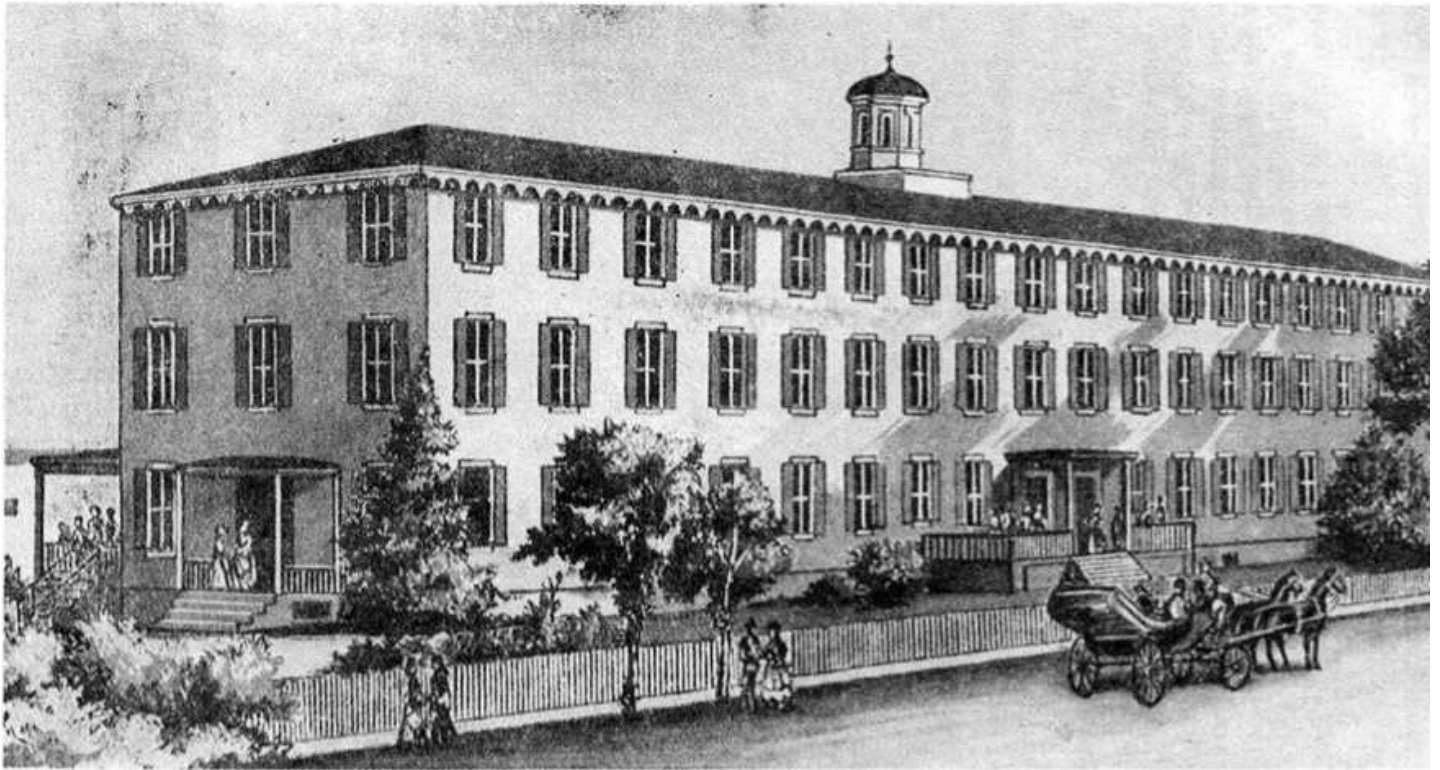
THE HYGEIAN HOME.

Preceding Trall and laying the groundwork for him was another health evangelist whose labors enlightened thousands and led them into better health and up to a higher view of life than they had ever known. A young preacher who had been a temperance lecturer, Sylvester Graham, had prepared himself for his work as a temperance lecturer by making a thorough study of anatomy and physiology, together with considerable study of pathology. The same writer previously quoted with reference to Trall, said of Graham that he was “preeminently the father of the Philosophy of Physiology. In his masterly and elaborate work, the ‘Science of Life’ he has given the world more philosophy and more truth concerning the primary and fundamental laws which relate man to external objects and to other beings, than any other author ever did—than all other authors ever have. Though his writings are in poor repute with the medical profession, and his vegetarian doctrines are condemned by the great majority of medical men of the present day, no one has ever undertaken to controvert his arguments, and, probably, never will. To him, as to all other pioneers in the Health Reform, the customary remark applies, he was an assiduous worker and thinker. His

book has now been before the people of this country about thirty years, and has been republished and circulated extensively in Europe, and is everywhere regarded as the pioneer work in the great field of Physiology and Hygiene.”



THE WESTERN HYGEIAN HOME,
ST. ANTHONY'S FALLS, MINNESOTA.
R. T. TRALL, M.D., PROPRIETOR.



Hygeian Home and Hygeio-Therapeutic College — Florence Heights, N. J.
R. T. Trall, M. D., Proprietor and President



Sylvester Graham

Sylvester Graham was born July 5, 1794. The seventeenth child of his parents, he was a weak and delicate child whose life was despaired of. At the age of sixteen he developed symptoms of tuberculosis of the lungs and was treated after the manner of the era.

After various attempts at a career, he entered Amherst College in 1823 to prepare himself for the ministry. It was here that he proved himself to be a talented orator, as well as gifted with the ability to write poetry and draw portraits. While in college he

studied anatomy and physiology and, it seems, also pathology. In 1830 he was engaged by the Pennsylvania Temperance Society to present the cause of temperance. Two years later (1832) he came forward as the champion of *Hygiene* and living reform. He boldly asserted that right living is a more certain means to health than a resort to physicians and drugs. He lectured in New York, Rochester, Providence, Buffalo and many other cities of the period. When we consider that over a hundred years ago, when the city of Rochester was but a small place and people had to travel by buggy or on foot, he attracted an audience of three thousand people in that city, some idea may be gained of the popularity of the man and his message. He soon had a great following. Books and magazines were published explaining the Graham system, Graham boarding houses and Graham restaurants came into existence. In Boston an organization of Grahamites established the world's first health food store. Organizations were formed in various cities; even in the colleges. At Brook Farm, near Boston, the Eden of the Intelligencia of the era, a Graham table was set. The same thing was true at Oberlin college. In Boston a special book store was established to provide food for thought.

The medical historian Shryock says: "Graham's work however, was really scientific in the sense that it included the current physiology as well hygiene; it having always been his contention that the latter must rest on a rational basis of 'physiological principles.' For this reason he became an ardent advocate of the popular teaching of physiology, and his followers were perhaps the first group to urge its introduction in the public schools." At this point it may be well to mention that Graham was the first to advocate the education of the young in sex hygiene.

Women displayed marked interest in Graham's message and special pleas were made to them. "Ladies Physiological Reform Societies" were formed and held meetings where they discussed "Grahamism" and worked for the advancement of the cause. There was some opposition to having a man lecture to women on such delicate subjects as their stomach, bowels, kidneys, etc., so a plea was made for women to equip themselves to lecture to women. Mary Gove and Paulina Wright were among the first women to answer the call and, a daring thing for the period, began to lecture to female audiences on hygiene and dress reform. It was regarded as a brazen thing for them to do, but they dared to lecture on anatomy and physiology, and Mrs. Gove wrote a splendid book on *Anatomy and Physiology for Women* which passed through several editions. It is reported that their talks on physiology and anatomy caused consternation among the fair Victorians in their audiences and that these shocked ladies often enlivened the meetings by a frantic search for smelling salts and by fainting.

Although he had to do so against the opposition of the medical profession, Graham persuaded the American people to bathe regularly. It should be understood that neither in this country nor in Europe did people bathe. He worked long and hard for food reform, decrying all animal foods, salt, pepper and other spices, vinegar, the excessive fat eating that characterized the eating practices of the people of the time, declared, in the teeth of the medical teaching to the contrary, that fruits and vegetables, and these uncooked, were the best foods of man, attempted to formulate rules for food combining, crusaded against white flour and explained the great superiority of whole wheat bread over white bread, denounced the bread made by the bakeries of the time, taught the people how to make bread; advocated regular physical exercise; taught the people the value of fresh air and well ventilated homes; insisted upon plenty of rest and sleep; outlined the advantages of exposure of the body to the direct rays of the sun; suggested that mankind would be better off if we all adopted nudity as a way of life; pointed out the great effects the emotions have upon the body and taught the people the necessity of emotional control; opposed the use of tea, coffee, chocolate, tobacco, alcohol, and other poison-habits; and insisted that the clothing worn during the era, especially the long skirts, tight waists and corsets of women and their high heeled, pointed-toed shoes were hurtful. If this seems enough for one man, let me add that he pioneered in adult education and in Negro education. Having tried his hand at school teaching at one time in his life, he was interested in education. His interests were far wider than this brief outline indicates.



Mary Gove

Graham, more than any other man of the time or in the past, shaped the career of Trall. Trall early became an intimate friend of Graham and the student of the work of these two men can easily detect the hand of Graham in much of the work of Trall. Graham's untimely death in 1851, at the age of only fifty-four, caused many to waver in their faith in the principles and practices for which he had labored so long. A weakling at the start of life, who had spent a sickly childhood in the hands of physicians who bled and drugged him heroically, a prodigious worker who did not spare himself, a man who did not stand criticism well, he may be thought to have done well to have lived as long as he did. But, in the light of more advanced knowledge which we possess today, it seems safe to say that Graham's death came several years before it should have. Cold bathing, as advocated by the hydropaths, continued even after he was too weak to walk to his bath, and a predominantly cereal diet, must have brought about his demise several years ahead of the age he would have died with more intelligent care of his body.

In 1822 in the state of Connecticut, a physician abandoned the practice of medicine and adopted a *Hygienic* practice. This was in the days before Graham had launched his crusade for hygienic living, before Trall had entered practice. Dr. Isaac Jennings had practiced regular medicine for twenty years, growing more skeptical of its alleged virtues all the while, until in that year, he discontinued giving drugs and

began to rely upon hygiene. Dr. Oswald said of him that, he “goes into first principles much deeper than Trall or Alcott,” but thought that he made a mistake when he wrote his first book in permitting his indignation to get the better of his judgement. Oswald says that some of the chapters in the book “seem to be written with boiling ink.”

Born at Fairfield, Conn., November 7, 1788, Isaac Jennings worked on his father’s farm until he was twenty. Having long had an ambition to become a physician, at this age he received an opportunity to enter the office of Eli Ives, M.D., and “read medicine,” as was the custom of the time. Educated in medicine under the celebrated Prof. Ives of Yale, he made his debut in medicine under the flag of Cullen. Entering upon practice with great enthusiasm, but with an observing and inquiring mind, he soon found that the older physicians used fewer drugs than the younger ones. In fact some of the older men expressed great lack of confidence in their drugs. Experiences in his own practice cast doubts upon their efficacy. He learned to rely more and more upon regimen and less and less upon drugs and the lancet.

In that fateful year, 1822, “solitary and alone,” and unaided, except by his own reasonings, observations and experiences, he came to the firm and settled conviction that “medicine was a gross delusion from beginning to end.” In a letter written in 1863, he says of this time: “The universal belief was that disease was hostile to life, tended downwards in all its forms, and of course should be counteracted. It was at such a time, under such circumstances, I took practically and decidedly, the position that disease was in no wise antagonistic to life, and that it was merely impaired health; deranged condition and action from deficiency of force, through violation of the laws and conditions of life; that these laws were fixed and immutable, and tending, under all circumstances, toward the summit head of perfect soundness; that when power was ample, health was perfect and stable; that when the sustaining energies were deficient, health would be impaired and action deranged.”

The view here expressed is that *enervation* is disease and, while he refers to “deranged action” in disease, he still regarded all action in disease as being as lawful and orderly as the actions seen in health, and as tending towards recovery. This is what is meant by the term *Orthopathy*, which he coined to express his conception of the essential nature of disease.

Trall escaped from the drugging plan of treating the sick by way of hydropathy; Jennings made his escape by way of *placeboes*. For twenty years he satisfied the faith of his patients in the power of potions to *cure* them by giving them bread pills, starch powders and colored water. Prof. James Munroe used to describe how Jennings would dispense a box of bread pills with explicit directions as to when and how they should be taken, at the same time giving much good advice as to diet and hygiene.

His success was phenomenal. Indeed, so great was his success, no other physician could exist in the same region.

Finally, his conscience got the better of him and he confessed that he had no faith in drugs and would no longer make any pretense of giving them. This cost him much of his practice and after a few years (1837) he visited the perfectionist colony at Oberlin, Ohio, where he moved in 1839. He was a trustee of Oberlin College and served the city once as mayor. His drugless practice did not meet with much response from the people of Oberlin, and several years before his death, in pneumonia, March 13, 1874, he retired from practice.

Among professional men of his time, Dr. Jennings made, so far as I can find any record, but one convert. Dr. William Alcott, of Boston, became an advocate of the Jennings theories and practices and rejected those of the hydropaths. His work did greatly influence Trall, Jackson and such successors as Walter, Page, Oswald, and a few other men. Dr. Jennings was not a crusader, a fact that was very unfortunate for the early days of the *Hygienic* movement. If he had promulgated his views and practices with greater ardor and attacked the water cure system with more force, many mistakes of the early *Hygienists* may conceivably have been avoided. For, it must be said in all candor, that among the early *Hygienists* Jennings was the only one whose practice was strictly *Hygienic*, unless that of Alcott became so. In fact many of Trall's graduates used "a little medicine," being unable to get completely away from the drugging practice.

I have discussed the three men who played the largest roles in the evolution of the *Hygienic System*. Certain of their contemporaries and immediate successors added greatly to our knowledge and assisted in eliminating some of the early mistakes. Although I shall devote less space to these men, it is thought necessary to include information about them, in order that the reader may have a comprehensive grasp of the development of *Hygiene*.

William A. Alcott, M.D., cousin of Bronson Alcott, and the only professional convert to Jennings theories and practices of which we have a record, was born in Wolcott, Conn., August 6, 1798. His early life was spent on the farm; at the age of eighteen he began a career as a school teacher. "A strong desire to improve and elevate the schools led him to overtask himself." Mr. Bernard's *Journal of Education* states that he exerted himself so severely in this work and practiced self-denial to such an extent that he brought on "a most violent attack of erysipelas, from the effects of which, though he escaped with his life, he never entirely recovered." About this time he began the study of medicine and in the winter of 1825–26 attended medical lectures in New Haven.



William A. Alcott

He entered upon the study of medicine “not so much with the design of making it a profession, as with the hope that it might prove an aid in fitting him to become a more thorough teacher.” In March 1826, he received a license to practice medicine and surgery, but soon thereafter “found an opportunity to engage in teaching again, and embraced it eagerly.”

His health rapidly failed and “severe cough and great emaciation,” “followed by hectic fever, and the most exhausting and discouraging perspirations,” compelled him to give up teaching and endeavor to regain his health. The “soundest medical advice” failing him, “he abandoned medicine, adopted for a time the ‘starvation system,’ or nearly that, and threw himself, by such aids as he could obtain, into the fields and woods, and wandered among the hills and mountains.” Largely regaining his health, he returned to teaching, though his struggles with ill health continued until his death Tuesday, March 28, 1859.

When Graham lectured in Boston in 1832 a young medical student at Dartmouth attended his lectures and, after hearing them, gave up the study of medicine and became a newspaper man. After a period of travelling over the West and South as a newsman, he became editor of the New York *Evening Herald*. In 1840 Mary Gove, a remarkable woman who had been the first to answer the call for women to lecture to women on Grahamism, went to New York City to study the water cure under Dr. Joel Shew. She and Thomas Low Nichols, the editor who had given up the study of medicine after hearing Graham, were both active in the movement for Woman’s Rights and a few other movements of the time. They met and married. As women were not permitted, in those days to enter medical college and there were no other schools of “healing” to attend, Nichols decided to complete his studies of medicine, and get a license to practice so he could protect Mrs. Gove in her work. He studied medicine at the University of New York under the famous Valentine Mott and graduated with high honors. He would often laugh to himself over the thought of the revolutionary purposes to which he was going to put the reactionary knowledge they

dispensed at the University.



Thomas Low Nichols

In 1850 they opened an establishment in New York City, where they dispensed more *Hygiene*, giving special attention to the emotional and love life of their patients, than they did of water cure. They beat Freud to an understanding of the importance of the sex life by many years. Mrs. Nichols used to call their work the “Love Cure.” Nichols and Gove each wrote books and he edited and published in this country the *Nichols Journal* and *The Esoteric*. When the north declared war on the seceded southern states, these two New England Yankees, who were opposed to the war and who thought the south had every right to secede, slipped out of New York and sailed to England where they opened an institution and carried on for many years. In England, Dr. Nichols founded and edited *The Herald of Health*, until he retired in the 1890’s when he went to France where he remained until his death at the age of 85 in 1901, Mrs. Nichols having died in England several years prior thereto.

The Herald of Health edited by Dr. Nichols was avowedly a *Hygienic* publication, although Dr. Nichols never abandoned the cold water treatments of Preissnitz. There were other *Hygienic* institutions in England headed by other men and there was one magazine published under the title *The Journal of Hygeio-Therapy*.

This Journal was edited by T. V. Gifford, M.D., who asserted that the founding (of the College of Hygeio-Therapy in New York was the “great if not the greatest deed” of Trall’s life.

On September 15, 1851, Dr. Nichols and Mary Cove opened the American Hydropathic Institute in New York City. This was a “medical school ... for the instruction of qualified persons of both sexes, in all branches of a thorough medical education, including the principles and practices of Water Cure, in acute or chronic disease, surgery and obstetrics.” This was the first such school in America, perhaps in the world. It was the world’s first drugless college. Although called a Hydropathic Institute, its teachings were *Hygienic*. Hydropathy was practiced by practically all *Hygienists* at that time, the only known exceptions being Jennings and Alcott. Even Graham was misled by the claims of the hydropathic school. Hydropathy was taught in Trall’s college also.

Hydropathy was an effort at medical reform rather than a medical revolution. It employed water in various forms from steam to ice, and at all intermediate temperatures, applied in a wide variety of ways, both locally and generally, internally and externally, to secure the same results that medical men sought to obtain with their poisonous drugs. Today it puzzles the *Hygienist* to account for Trall’s failure to see in the actions of the body, when subjected to hot and cold applications, the same forms of resistance that he saw when drugs were administered. That he grew gradually and slowly away from hydropathy is true, but our present thought is that, had he given more attention to Jennings he would have made a more rapid and a more complete escape from the fallacies of the Water Cure School.

There was one part of his theory of disease, however, that left the door open to the use of temperature as a “therapeutic” measure and, with some of his students, the use of drugs. He held that disease (remedial effort) is the action of blind impulses and that unless they are directed intelligently, they may lead to a fatal termination. To direct them, his first rule in caring for the sick was to “balance the circulation.” To balance the circulation he employed temperature in the form of hydropathic applications. Some of his students thought they could direct the remedial action by the limited use of drugs. Indeed, some years after his death, a medical man, William A. Dunham, M.D., took a large part of Trall’s theory of disease and built a whole system of drug medication upon it, using drugs to direct the remedial efforts. A similar effort is now being made in Russia by the Speransky School.

It is precisely at this point that closer attention to the works of Jennings would have enabled *Hygienists* to have avoided several mistakes. Jennings did not see the reign of blind impulse but of immutable law in disease. Instead of seeking to direct

the remedial effort, he was content to leave it to the direction of law. As the successes in practice of Trall and Jennings were about equal, it is evident that Trall's efforts to "balance the circulation" were not markedly injurious, even if they were not necessary to the proper care of the patient. Trall believed in, advocated and made use of fasting in the care of his acutely ill patients, but he does not seem to have employed the fast as extensively as did Jennings.



Sussanna W. Dodds

Dr. Dodds correctly observes that, in trying to profit by the principles laid down and the practices developed by all of these men (she refers to them as "health reformers") "it is well to avoid copying their faults and mistakes." None of these men, she said, was perfect. She likened the selection process that must be made to that of going to a first class hotel, the table of which is loaded with many kinds of food. It is not meet for us to partake of everything on the table, but to make selections according to our needs. In making our selections from among the theories and practices that were developed by the early *Hygienists* we must be guided by fixed principles and make full use of much knowledge that has accrued since their deaths.

It will be noted that the college opened by Dr. Nichols and Mary Gove, his wife, admitted both sexes to its courses. When Trall's school was opened the following year, women were also admitted to its courses. At that time there was not a medical school in the world that admitted women to its courses and there was the strongest opposition in the medical profession to women becoming physicians. Here, again, the

Hygienic school was far ahead of the other schools. Women found the strongest champions of “woman’s rights” among the *Hygienists*. Indeed, *Hygienists*, took a leading role in all of the reform movements of the time. They left a deeper mark on their age and, consequently, upon the present, than the average person is aware of. If ever a complete history of the nineteenth century is written, the part played by *Hygienists* in its progress will receive a prominent place.

Another college was founded in St. Louis, Mo., in 1887 by Susanna W. Dodds, M.D., one of Trall’s most brilliant students, her sister-in-law, Mary Dodds, M.D., and Alexander Milton Ross, M.D. At first this college offered a three year’s course, but after the first year, the course was expanded to four years. Dr. Dodds says that the college was not endowed, so that after seven years of operation, they were forced to close it. In addition to *Hygiene* the college taught obstetrics and surgery. It also taught sufficient theory and practice of allopathic medicine to enable its graduates to pass the medical board examinations. The college was well liked by many regular medical men who had lost their faith in the stupidities of the drugging schools and Wilder’s *History of Medicine* commends the school as a very excellent one. Unfortunately, hers was the only attempt to establish a college of *Hygiene* after the death of Trall, his own school having been forced to close by financial difficulties, but a year or two before his death.

James Caleb Jackson, M.D., was born March 28, 1811, in Manlius, N. Y. He received his degree in medicine from Syracuse College. While only a youth he entered ardently into politics and was a staunch advocate of abolition. He was made secretary of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and in 1842, was made editor of the Madison County *Abolitionist*. Later he purchased the *Albany Patriot*, then the leading anti-slavery journal. His health broke down and he sold his paper and became the patient of Dr. S. O. Gleason, a hydrohygienist of Cuba, N. Y. This was in 1847. After four months under Dr. Gleason’s care he entered into partnership with Dr. Gleason and Miss Theodosia Gilbert. These partners established a *Hygienic* Institute, at the head of the Skanateles Lake, which became widely known as the “Glen Haven Water Cure.” Gleason sold his interest to his two partners in 1849 and they continued to conduct the Institute until 1858 when Jackson left for Dansville, N Y., where he opened “Our Home Hygienic Institute.” The name was changed in 1890 to the “Jackson Sanitarium.” This Home was once the largest *Hygienic* institution in the world.



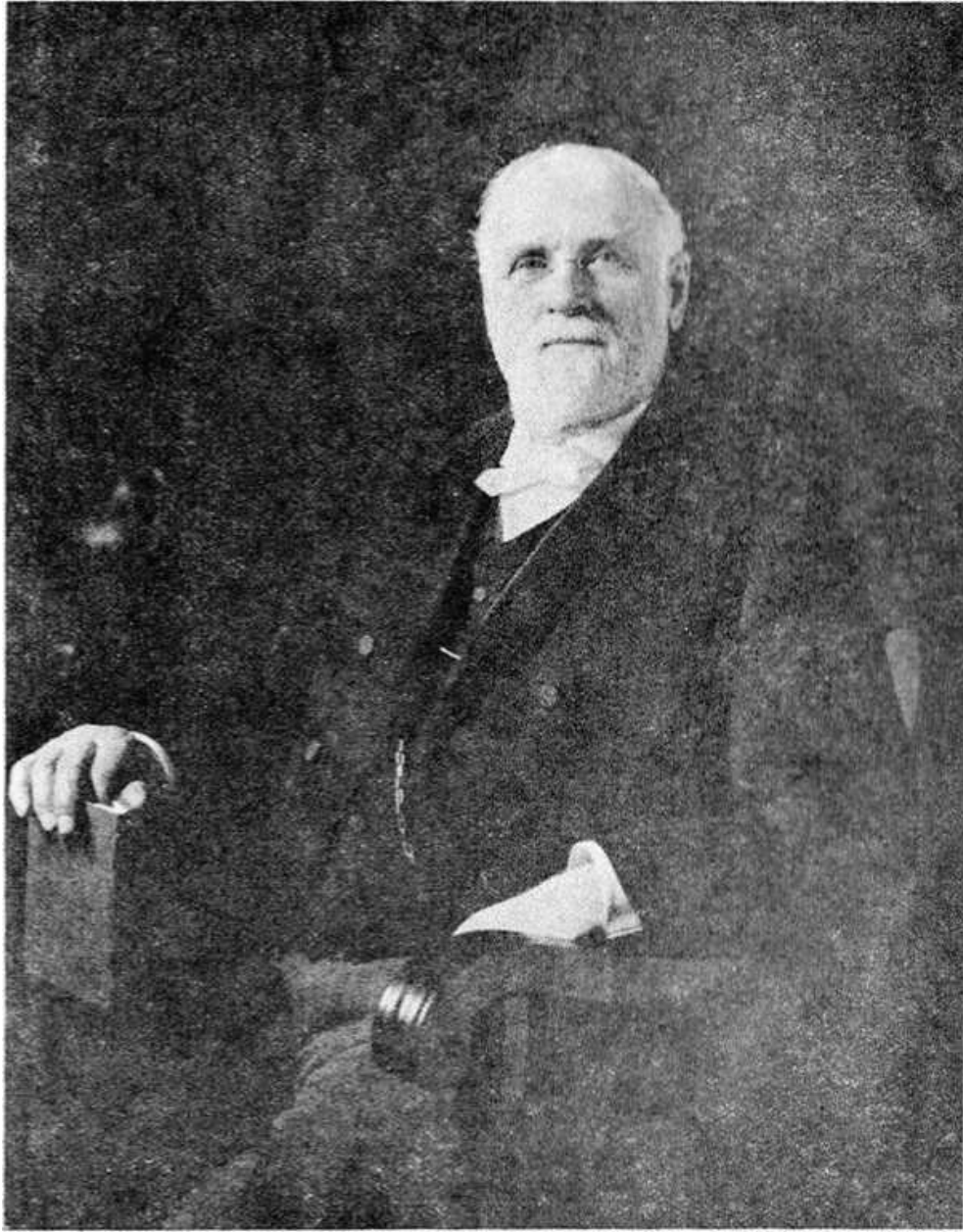
Janies C. Jackson

The Livingston Co., Business Directory for 1868 tells us that Dr. Jackson had treated 20,000 patients by what he was pleased to call the psycho-hygienic method in the preceding 20 years, and without giving any drugs.

A few years before the death of Dr. Jennings, Dr. Jackson's son had pneumonia. Jackson treated him with heroic hydropathy. This treatment brought a severe reprimand from Jennings. The boy never fully recovered and subsequently developed tuberculosis from which he died in a few years. This experience and the scolding he received from Jennings opened Jackson's eyes to the evils of hydropathy, as he had practiced it for years, and resulted in a great improvement in both his theory and practice. Jackson was well liked by everyone and was the idol of his townsmen. His institution is now owned by the Macfadden Foundation and is known as the Physical Culture Hotel.

Dr. George H. Taylor was born in 1821 and died in 1896. He specialized in the Ling System, or the Movement Cure, as it was called, which he, with another Dr. Taylor, his brother, helped to introduce into America; and, in extending its development, discovered that hernia, visceroptosis, and similar conditions may be corrected by exercise.

"There must be a way to live exactly right, which, if a man does, he will grow into health," said a young school teacher to himself over half a century ago. He was beginning to despair of life because every physician to whom he went diagnosed his condition differently and proceeded to make him much worse than ever. Then began a long series of experiments upon his own body, and years of study of the subjects that relate to health and impaired health.



Robert Walter

This young man, Robert Walter by name, later became one of the most outstanding leaders in the *Hygienic* movement. He was born February 14, 1841, and died October 26, 1921. Like Graham, Trall, Tilden and many others, who have turned to *Hygiene*, he was forced to study the matter himself, because physicians are interested in "disease," not in health. His degree in medicine was obtained at the Hygieo-Therapeutic College founded and administered by Trall. To Trall, Jackson and Jennings he gives most credit for his own work.

His *Hygienic* institution at Wernersville, Pa., was a large institution and was

famed throughout the world for the excellence of results obtained there in the care of all forms of impaired health including the so-called incurable conditions. He was a man of brilliant mind; a keen thinker and careful logician. Someday he, along with Jennings, Graham, Trall, Taylor, and Tilden will take their justly deserved places in America's Hall of Geniuses.



Charles E. Page

Dr. Charles E. Page was born in Norridgewalk, Me., February 23, 1840. He entered upon the study of medicine before the Civil (?) War, but his studies were cut short by his entry into the Army. In 1879 he entered the Eclectic Medical College in New York City. He did not long remain an eclectic, for, almost immediately after graduation we find him in the ranks of the *Hygienists* where he remained throughout an active and busy practice. He practiced in the city of Boston for more than thirty years and retired from active practice a few years before his death, at the age of 85, at 20 Pearl St., Melrose Highlands, Mass., November 24, 1925. His many contributions to the medical journals of New England helped to educate the physicians of that section, while his great number of contributions to *Physical Culture*, *The Stuffed Club*, and various other health magazines and anti-vaccination periodicals have exerted great influence.



Felix L. Oswald

Dr. Felix Oswald came to this country from Belgium, where he was born in 1845. He graduated from the University of Brussels in 1865. He had traveled extensively and was widely acquainted with the world's literature. Though trained in medicine, he became a *Hygienist* of the first rank. His life was cut short by a train in Syracuse, N.Y., September 29, 1906.

Other men and women of the past, deserving of mention, but who cannot be considered in detail at this place, are Harriet Austin, M.D., long associated with Dr. Jackson; Augusta Fairchild, M.D., a graduate of Trall's college; Russell Trall, Jr. M.D., who practiced in Philadelphia; his sister, Rebecca Trall, M.D., who practiced in Brooklyn, and Helen and Emmet Densmore, M.D., Edward Hooker Dewey, M.D., who greatly added to our knowledge of fasting, although he was not a *Hygienist*. Dr. Dodds says of him: "He was certainly not a Hygienist." She enumerates the following practices of his that excluded him from *Hygienic* ranks: he "drank coffee, ate meat, white bread ... indulged in hearty suppers ... and some of his ideas on bathing seem to be very extreme ... he discarded fruits, especially the acid varieties, almost entirely." I may add that he never entirely discarded drugs.

The student of history knows that no group of people ever succeeded in casting off all of the old and honored errors at one fell stroke. Most of the early *Hygienists*, like Trall, had found their way out of the wilderness of pills and powders by way of hydropathy and for a number of years, even after they had broadened out and the principles by which they applied their practices had been established, they continued to call themselves hydropaths and their practice hydropathy. Then came the realization that they had outgrown the hydropathic shell and that a new name was needed. Several names were suggested, such as Hygeopathy, Sanatology, Sanology, Hogeopathy, Hygieo-therapia, Hygeio-therapy, Hygeo-curopathy and Hygieo-medicine. There is evident in most of these suggestions a tendency to ape the older systems.

It was pointed out by one *Hygienist*, George Field, M.D., who employed hydropathy that, "in the treatment of disease we make use of water to an extent and in a variety of ways that would not be beneficial for the purpose" of "preserving health." In other words, as his brief article dealing with a proposed new name, points out, hydropathy is not essential to the body in a state of health. He says that: "in reply to this it might be said that water is a *natural agent*, and not foreign to the human system as are drugs, and that, in this way, the water treatment might, with some propriety, come under the head of Hygeopathy, in connection with other natural agents, as air, exercise, diet, etc."

The obvious reply to this last statement is that water is no more natural than

arsenic or prussic acid and that while it is a normal need of the human body, both in health and in sickness, its many and varied applications by the hydropath meets none of the body's normal needs for water. We do not, for example, make poultices or packs or fomentations of our food and apply these to the body. We do not spray the body with orange juice nor douche its orifices with ground cabbage. To be considered a *Hygienic* use of any normal element of nature's great system of *Hygiene* the element must be used normally. It may be replied that water is employed merely as a medium by which different degrees of temperature are applied to the body and that temperature is normally applied from without. The answer to this is obvious: namely, normally, temperature is not employed as a means of interfering with the functions of life as is done by the hydropath.

As there was considerable confusion about what name to give the new system, so there was also much difference of opinion about what should go into it. Its practitioners did not profess to select what is good from all systems, as did the eclectics, but they did profess to select what is good from all nature. Not to the old and false systems, but to nature did they go for instruction and for the sources of their remedial processes.

Holding that the true principles of a science of care of the body both in health and in sickness can be drawn from physiology alone; that the power to restore diseased parts depends on the same source as that which maintains well parts and that, life is evolved from the same essential conditions, whether it is perfect or falls far short of perfection; that the study of the body in health affords the most suitable indications of its needs, even in sickness; and that the office of the professional attendant upon the sick was to determine what changes in form and quantity of the needs of health are requisite to render the adaptation more complete and conformable to physiology under the circumstances, while relying upon the inherent powers of the organism; to use these in a way to restore health, the *Hygienists* undertook to determine what things do and what things do not have a normal relation to life; this is to say, they endeavored to determine what the body can use and what it cannot use in building structure and in carrying on function. *Hygiene* was commonly defined as those means and habits which tend to *preserve* health. *Medicine* was those means and practices which tend to restore health, or, as it was more commonly said, *cure* disease. This differentiation between *hygiene* and *medicine* was based on the assumption, more often implied than expressed, that the body's needs and relations are radically changed in disease. The *Hygienic* position is that the body's needs and relations are not radically changed, but that they are merely slightly modified. It does not need poisons in disease any more than it needs them in health: its relations to poisons

undergo no change in disease. Poisons are poisons under any and all circumstances of life.

It was here that differences of opinion arose, perhaps, more than elsewhere. Trall included electricity among the elements of *Hygiene*. Doubts ultimately arose as to the correctness of its inclusion in this category. Thus, while there were *Hygienists* who thought that “an hour in” the electro-chemical bath, “will eradicate all poisons from the system,” there were others who thought it “all humbug—a trick to make money and delude the people.” Some refused to adopt it because they did not find it necessary, while others declared they could remedy troubles with it that they could not remedy in any other manner.

Obviously the solution to this muddle was a reference to primary principles. Is electricity useful and needful in a state of health? If not, it is not useful or needful in a state of ill health. It was, at that time, at least, thought to be useful and needful in health and nature was thought to have her ways of supplying the living organism with the needed electricity. I am not sure that this matter has yet been settled. I, myself, do not think that electricity is a necessity of health. I am sure that those *Hygienists* were right who declared that, if it is an essential of, life, nature has her own way of supplying man’s needs without resort to artificial modes of electrical treatment. So far as I know, and I think I know the views of all of the living *Hygienists*, this is the view of all practicing *Hygienists*. Dr. Tilden did use diathermy on occasions to “soften up” the neck of the uterus. I think that, perhaps, Dr. Weger did the same.

Although the electro-chemical baths are past history, many other modes of applying electricity have been developed, some of them also having passed into history. Today electro-therapy is regarded as a part of what is called physical medicine or physio-therapy, the *Hygienists* having outgrown it. Another method employed for a time by a few *Hygienists* was the compressed-air bath devised by Dr. Geo. H. Taylor. It was an effort to provide a certain atmospheric pressure which was conceived of as having some *Hygienic* value. The development and use of such measures reveal that *Hygienists* have not been exempt from the common belief that somehow, and sometime short cuts to health may be discovered. For ages the medical profession had provided mankind with short-cuts to the grave, all of them designed as short-cuts to health. Taylor invented an explanation of how his compressed air bath helped the patient that was as ingenuous and plausible as anything the medical profession ever offered for any of its myriads of drugs.

The theories of the early *Hygienists* concerning the cause of disease were more or less chaotic. Gove regarded weakness as the cause; Jennings looked upon “deficiency of force” as disease; Trall and Graham declared disease to be due to impurities. These

impurities were of two general kinds: (1) ingenerated poisons or effete matter, or what we call body waste, and (2) foreign matter (poisons) taken in with food and drink or as drugs, etc. They pointed out that the living body is a generator of poison; that the waste of the body is poisonous and that its formation is continuous. The retention of this waste consequent upon failure of elimination was regarded as one of the leading causes of disease. While, in a general way the office of lowered vitality or enervation in the production of disease was recognized by all of these men, the precise relationship of enervation and the accumulation of ingenerated poisons was not fully understood. Nichols came very close to expressing our present conception of this relationship, but he missed the mark by a hair's breadth.

The man who brought order out of this chaos, who not only established the relationship between "deficiency of force" and the accumulation of body waste and also the precise relationship between the many habits of living that are violations of the laws of life and the "deficiency of force" that constitutes the first deviation from normal, was John H. Tilden, M.D., of Denver, Colo. All of the elements of the enervation-toxemia theory of Tilden are present in the early *Hygienic* theories about etiology, but they were not systematized and organized. Tilden's work in this field is of paramount importance.

Born in 1851 in Van Burenburg, Ill., where he was reared, he tells us that from his earliest childhood, he had dreamed of being a doctor; a very natural dream, as his father, John Goodrich Tilden was a physician. Early in life he began to play at being a doctor, using cats, dogs, calves, pigs, birds as patients; later caring for human patients, so that he acquired the name the "boy doctor." He tells us that it was at the cook-stove that he learned how a sick kitten clings to heat; that in caring for animals, he first learned that the sick animal will not eat. These two lessons were later to bear fruit in his practice.

Although his father, a "regular of the regulars" among physicians, did not look with favor upon the "irregulars" of his time, in 1870 young John entered the Eclectic Medical College, of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he graduated May 11, 1872. In 1874 the dean of Bellevue Medical College refused him graduation because he had received a prior degree in medicine from an "irregular" medical college. Austin Flint, Jr. M.D., of Bellevue, told Tilden: "You may attend as many terms of lectures as you wish by paying the regular fee, but under no circumstances will we issue a diploma to anyone who has accepted a degree from an irregular medical school." Thus the animus of the allopaths against the other drug schools prevented the young eclectic physician from graduating as an allopath also. The allopaths, who arrogantly called themselves "regulars" referred to the homeopaths, eclectics and physio-medicalists as

“irregulars.” With so much animosity existing between the four drug schools then represented in the United States, the reader may well imagine the animus these schools had toward the *Hygienic* school that decried all drugging and was rapidly undermining the whole drugging system.

Dr. Tilden spent the first seven years of his practice in Nokomio, Ill., then two years in St. Louis; taught anatomy and physiology in the American Medical College, now defunct; then moved to Litchfield, Ill., later to Wichita, Kan., and finally to Denver, Colo., where he remained until his death in 1940. He served on the Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners the first year and a half, resigned, was reappointed but declined to serve.

He practiced medicine and surgery for twenty-five years during which period he took the practice of medicine seriously and says that he thought that “unless I was after the enemy—disease—with a goodsized arsenal I was certainly derelict.” Personal experiences, however, led him gradually to lose all faith in drugs and, like Jennings, he began to use sugar tablets—“blank cartridges,” he called them— which he continued to give, to use his own words, “until I was mentally evolved to the truth that even sugar pills were injurious, in that the make believe medication educated my patients into believing that their improvement was due to the supposed drug they were taking. This is the harm in doing for sick people anything labeled curative.”



John H. Tilden

It seems that few, if any medical men ever get away from the drugging practice without going through the bread-pill and colored water stage. Jennings and Page both traversed this road, Trall going by way of the "water cure." It is unfortunate that most medical men remain in this stage and never learn that all forms of make-believe medication receive credit for recoveries and that this prevents the patient and family

from really learning the truth about disease and the many “curing” systems.

Tilden finally gave up the placebo practice and learned to rely upon *Hygiene*. Although he most often refers to his work as the “toxemia philosophy,” and the “toxemia system,” he does, more than once, refer to it as *Hygienic*. He was a student of Trall and of Page with whom he was on the friendliest of terms. An interesting sidelight on the animus that still exists towards those who step out of the ancient medical pattern is contained in the fact that when *Who's Who* was first published, it contained Tilden's pedigree, but thereafter dropped him from the list of worthwhile citizens. To compensate for this, however, Morris Fishbein, while still the official mouthpiece of the American Medical Association (allopathic), included him in his *Blue Book* of quacks and quackeries. Fishbein also influenced public libraries so that they refused to put Tilden's books on their lending lists. Fishbein was a petty mountebank who was engaged by the allopathic profession to hunt medical heretics. He was a modern Torquemada.

Dr. Tilden gathered around him a small group of medical men and a few osteopaths who had abandoned their faith in drugs and the “find it, fix it, and let it alone,” philosophy of Dr. Still, and trained them in his work. Perhaps the most outstanding of these men were George E. Weger, M.D., and Arthur Vos, M.D. One man, Percy L. Clark, M.D., made a loud noise after leaving Tilden, but proved to be a disappointment. R. L. Alsaker, M.D., departed somewhat from the paths of *Hygienic* rectitude after dissociating himself from Tilden.

Tilden's books and magazines have had a world-wide circulation and have helped to keep alive the message of *Natural Hygiene*. His health school in Denver was frequented by patients from all parts of the world. When Dr. Vos took over this Health School although backed by the manufacturers of Jergens Lotion, he was unable to successfully carry it on, so strong was the Tilden tradition and so insistent were the followers of Tilden upon receiving his services. This is not to the discredit of Dr. Vos, whose abilities and integrity are undoubted, but does indicate the hold that a strong personality has upon people. *Hygienists* have had to be men of outstanding personality and of heroic mold to survive in the world of today.

The writings of Graham and Trall had a wide circulation in England and certain of their works were translated into the German language and published in Germany. Trall lectured on his theories in England and aroused quite a storm of controversy. Nichols and Gove resided in England for many years and published, not only a magazine in that country, but several books and conducted an institution there for the care of the sick. At one time, Trall made an effort to get a college of *Hygiene* started in England. The repercussions of the *Hygiene* movement were felt around the world.

There was a rapid spread of sentiment in favor of the employment of *Hygienic* materials and conditions with a still more rapid diffusion of hygienic information. Even the demand of *Hygienists* that physiology and *Hygiene* be taught in the public schools was at least partially met, although with the passage of time, the medical profession has succeeded in getting the effort to teach hygiene largely defeated and transformed into the teaching of fallacies about serums and vaccines. The men of medicine know where their real enemy is.

The adoption by the people, in the face of dogged opposition by the medical profession, of exercise, sunbathing, ventilated homes and offices, better modes of clothing, fruits and vegetables in greater abundance, raw vegetables in the face of the medical threat of typhoid, has gained for hygiene a leading place in the lives of our people. *Hygiene* became so popular and the popular distrust of drugs became so great that as Shyrock says, allopathy adopted enough *Hygiene* to save itself. When it became no longer safe to ignore or despise *Hygiene*, they adopted it in part, although perverting it and mixing it with their drugs and serums. They not only succeeded in fooling the people, most of whom now think that the medical profession promoted hygienic living, but in fooling the *Hygienists*, themselves. Shortly after the death of Trall the story ran through *Hygienic* publications that the medical profession had reformed. It had accepted *Hygiene*. There seemed to be no longer any reason for them to carry on their fight. They rested on their oars. This was an almost fatal blunder. Medicine can never reform. It first denounces everything and then claims everything, but it adopts only to destroy. It seeks always and only to preserve itself.

I shall permit Shryock to testify further to the influence the *Hygienists* have had in changing the mode of living and the entire outlook of the people of America. He says: "A century after Graham first made his appeal, his preachments have begun to be practiced and today, at least part of the population, apparently eat less and select their food with greater care than did their fathers. People nowadays are seekers after roughage and the whole grain in cereals. They worship fresh air, and sun-tan, and the bath-room has become the very symbol of American civilization. Verily Americans have become 'physiologically reformed.'"

Again, he says that "regular" medicine "maintained itself by incorporating the best thoughts of the sect. The real debt of modern hygiene to these health reformers is seldom appreciated; the very principles for which Graham, Trall and others fought—the dangers of drugs, the importance of hygiene, and the ounce-of-prevention philosophy in general—was in due time largely accepted by the regular profession ... The fact remains that, at least in the earlier period, the popular health reformers were the most energetic groups mentioned—seemingly the only ones which approached

the degree of organization and enthusiasm necessary to the popularization of any cause. It would seem probable that they exerted a corresponding degree of influence in making possible the success of the health movement. And it may also be assumed in conclusion that such success has meant much to our people in terms of esthetic values, decreasing illness, and even lowered mortality rate; for general improvement in personal hygiene is obviously an important factor in the improvement of the public health as a whole.”

These concessions by a leading medical historian are significant. It is not, of course, to be expected that Shryock should go all the way in discussing a subject which medical historians generally elect to omit all mention of. Just as it is not accurate to say that the medical profession incorporated the “best thoughts” of the *Hygienists*, so it is not exactly true to say that they exerted a great influence in “making possible the success of the health movement.” They were the health movement and outside the ranks of *Hygienists*, there was no such movement. Any attention given to health by others was merely a reflection of the *Hygienic* movement. Also, it is not accurate to say that “improvement in personal hygiene is obviously an important factor in the improvement of the public health as a whole.” It is the most important factor. Unfortunately, when the medical profession accepted the ounce-of-prevention philosophy they perverted it to mean vaccinal “immunization.”

Medicine cannot adopt Hygiene without perishing. Our practices challenge their approval or dissent; but they well know that their approval means the wreck of their own system. If the principles of the *Hygienic* school are right, then from time immemorial medical authority and practices have been wrong. That they should at once publicly confess this much would be too much to expect of them, proud and haughty as they are. In their class rooms and within the sanctums of their own private associations, as well as in their standard texts and reference works, they are, indeed, free enough in their general confessions of ignorance and the poverty of their professional resources is a constant source of lamentation. But this veil must not be drawn by any unprivileged hand. No unprofessional “outsider” must venture to turn a ray of light into this sea of darkness; and everything related to their own special self-appointed function as the “guardian of the public health,” they watch with a careful and scrutinizing eye; they are ever watchful lest somebody knock the props from under their vast house of cards.

By means of magazines, books, booklets, lectures and the colleges the *Hygienic* movement was promulgated. It was a period of great mental awakening and the people, already distrustful of the drugging system, heard the message of *Hygiene*—that of “*health by healthful living*”—gladly. Not only did Graham and Trall lecture

extensively and to large audiences, but almost every graduate of the college carried the message of “health for the millions” to the people by means of lectures.

The number of books and booklets issued that dealt with *Hygiene* in general or with some particular phase of it was great and they had wide distribution. Numerous magazines were published monthly and semi-monthly. The *Graham Journal of Health and Longevity* was issued twice a month. Alcott edited and published *The Journal of Health* and *The Library of Health*. Starting as *The Water Cure Journal and Herald of Reforms*, and edited and published originally by Dr. Joel Shew, this monthly magazine had the widest circulation of any of the magazines devoted to the promulgation of *Hygiene*. Acquired by the Fowler and Wells Pub. Co., which published most of the *Hygienic* literature of the period, Dr. Trall was made editor. Its name was changed to *The Hygienic Teacher*— and then to *The Herald of Health*. Purchased by Dr. Trall, it continued on as the *Herald of Health* until he sold it to two of his graduates who changed its name to *The Herald of Health and Journal of Physical Culture*. Under this name it continued in publication until nearly the close of the century.

Dr. Trall, after the sale of the *Herald of Health*, published and edited another magazine of his own under the title *The Gospel of Health*. This ran but a short time, three or four years, when H. R. Wells of the Fowler and Wells Co., started *The Science of Health*, of which, although Wells held the title as editor, Trall was the actual editor. *The Laws of Life* — a monthly magazine published and edited by Dr. Jackson—had a wide circulation and ran through a few decades. *The Laws of Health* was published and edited by Dr. Robert Walter. Numerous other magazines of lesser importance were published for periods of a few to several years during the last half of the nineteenth century. Dr. Nichols’s three magazines, one of these published in England, have been previously mentioned.

About the close of the century, Albert Turner, a friend of Trall, started *Health Culture* magazine, which, for years was a *Hygienic* publication. About this time, also, Bemarr Macfadden started *Physical Culture*, which, at first, was largely *Hygienic* and was regularly contributed to by several of Trall’s graduates, by Dr. Chas. E. Page and Dr. Felix Oswald. At this time also, Dr. Tilden started his *Stuffed Club* the name of which was later changed to *Philosophy of Health*. Selling this magazine to Dr. Arthur Vos about 1923, he later started *Dr. Tilden’s Health Review and Critique*, which he continued to issue monthly until his death. Mrs. Tilden completed the 1940 vol. of this magazine with material Dr. Tilden had left behind, and suspended its publication at the end of the year 1940. At the present time the only *Hygienic* magazine published in America is *Dr. Shelton’s Hygienic Review*, which has been published

monthly since its first issue in September 1939. The movement has not been without a publication since the founding of the *Graham Journal*, during the more than a hundred and twenty years since it was launched. Although there was an extended period of near inactivity, there was never a time, from its origin to the present, when there was not activity in the ranks of *Hygiene*.

An extensive bibliography of *Hygiene* is given in the text of these volumes and it is not deemed necessary to reproduce it here. The most prolific *Hygienic* writers have been Graham, Alcott, Trall, Nichols, Walter, Tilden and, if I may be permitted to place my own name in this list, Shelton. Jennings, Page, Dodds, Oswald, Densmore, Carrington and Weger, have contributed valuable volumes to the literature of *Hygiene*. Of this list, Carrington and the present author are the only ones now living. Valuable contributions to *Hygiene* have been made by men and women who have never been associated with the *Hygienic movement* and have not been *Hygienists*. Among these are Dewey, Tanner, Hazzard and Moras of this country, Rabagliatti (England), Berg (Sweden), Lahmann (Germany), and Reinheimer (England). It must be added that *Hygiene* is confirmed by every genuine discovery in physiology and biology.

For ages physicians have behaved as though they think they alone have charge of the world. As a natural consequence, they run into many of the excesses of fanaticism. They have ridiculed and persecuted those outside the ranks of the regular profession who have attempted to aid their suffering fellowmen, even though they may later have been forced to accept their principles and practices.

So prone are men and women to regard their own ingrained prejudices as established first principles that it is difficult to attack and expose old errors without offending those who hold to these; for, men usually regard an attack upon their inherited beliefs and prepossessions as an attack upon their persons. Tradition blinded, convention bound, hibernators in antiquity, as was expected, rejected the orthopathic principle and the hygienic practice. The bigotry and malignity of the profession is evidenced by the persecution which they heap upon all outsiders and all dissenters within their own ranks.

Some one has said: "So limited is the human capacity, that the most exalted genius, and the deepest powers of investigation, have not been able to raise their possessors above the errors and prejudices of their age, on subjects which have not been made the peculiar object of their reflection." The great and learned in other fields of human endeavor have been, for the most part, unable to rise above the popular medical fallacies, prejudices and traditions of their time. For this reason the movement for living reform has progressed slowly and met with much unintelligent

opposition, but it has progressed. Opposition is naturally expected from those whose livelihood is derived from exploiting the sick and suffering; but from those who derive no benefit from the suffering of others, we have a right to expect an intelligent and open-minded hearing.

It is fortunate for humanity that courageous souls are not afraid of the condemnation of the powers that be; that rejection of error and refusal to do mischief does not stain a man with dishonor. Rather, dishonor attaches to him, who, well knowing that his practices are laid in error and are damaging to his patients, adheres to them and scatters its curses broadcast over the community in the form of shattered constitutions and shortened life. Dishonor attaches to that profession, which, while recognizing the futility and destructiveness of its practices and the incorrectness of its principles, continues its practices. He who labors to discover the laws of nature and who makes these the basis of his art and science should not be asked to harmonize with the reckless and selfish demagogue who is either too shallow pated to discern the distinctions between truth and error, or else, too dishonest to choose the former and reject the latter. Both dissent and opposition should be raised against all who would teach error and suppress and vilify truth and right.

It seldom happens that the reformer reaps the benefits of the reform he introduces. Men are slow to understand and still slower to act. But this does not deter the man or woman who possesses a genuine love of his fellowman and whose desire for the betterment of the race is no mere sentimental pseudo-religiosity. Rather he bravely faces the disappointments he is sure to experience and with courage and determination advances the cause, which, as he sees it, stands for the liberation and enlightenment of his fellows.

The revolutionist must pay a price, often a big one, for the privilege, the greatest of all privileges, of awakening his fellowmen to a realization of their errors, and educating them to an awareness of a better and nobler life than that which they have formerly known. Men who cast aside the conventional prejudices of their age and country, and who dare to proclaim and live up to the truths which they perceive, seldom receive the esteem and respect they deserve. If they are sincere and courageous, they care naught for the personal discomfort which the announcement of their message brings upon them, but carve out a way for themselves.

The greatest things in the world have seemed impossible to men and women when first they were made acquainted with them. If the new has threatened or even only appeared to threaten the old order, it has been met with violent opposition; often by those who stood to profit most by the acceptance of the new.

What if a new truth does smash all of our venerated traditions; it still is the truth.

We should not be interested so much in upholding traditions, however hoary and universal these may be, as in discovering the truth. Truth has a habit of getting itself accepted sooner or later, even though it may be forced to run the unsympathetic gauntlet of incredulity and unbelief.

Dr. Oswald says: "The mere announcement of a new truth has thus more than once led to its general recognition. It was in vain to legislate against the spread of the Copernican theory; the heavens refused to ratify the veto of the Inquisition. Newton's principles and the doctrines of evolution could dispense with the favor of critics. They prevailed by 'solving many riddles,' nature, logic, and experience, conspired to insure their triumph; in their theorems friend and foe found the solution of mysteries which other keys failed to unlock. The gospel of Natural Hygiene, too, can appeal to the evidence of that crucial test."—*Nature's Household Remedies*, p. 1–2.

Our real object is to bring self-knowledge to the people and teach them to guide themselves. The student cannot learn these if he is taught the current conceptions of sickness (microbes, exposure, etc.), and the current conceptions of cure obtained through a purely symptomatic fight with the exclusive assistance of drugs, serums, knives. A knowledge of habits and their influences is of far more value than any amount of knowledge of physics, chemistry, pharmacology and materia medica.

To those who have eyes to see, it is manifest that a new day has begun to dawn upon the earth and this is rapidly rendering old beliefs and old practices obsolete. A continuous disintegration of the old beliefs, together with the systems based thereon, is in progress. That this has given rise to a large number of hostile and divergent sects is unfortunate, but this state of inchoate confusion will be evanescent. The mountain tops are already tinged with the golden glow which speaks the near approach of the joyous morning.

"The dawn is at hand," as Oswald remarked; the number of hygienic practitioners is increasing. Some of these are recruited from the ranks of materia medica, others from the various drugless schools. For, no man can study the *Hygienic System*, even with hostile intent, without having the truth of its principles and the worth of its practices forced upon him. It was inevitable that the deep-flowing popular current that is flowing towards Natural Methods should sooner or later splash over the sides into these systems.

However, we must not expect much in the way of reform from medicine. It is eaten up by the dry-rot of a soulless commercialism. Medical practitioners are all but lost in the mephitic vapors which ascend out of the stygian pool of the profit system; hence a profession which should have lighted the way for the world, is so filled with stygian darkness that it is quite unable to afford any light or leading to a sick world

that is earnestly desirous of knowing the truth.

Medicine does not progress. The forms may wax old and pass away, but the spirit which dwelt therein is given a new, often a more showy, embodiment and goes on making the same old mistakes in the same old ways. They tell us by implication, if not in so many words, that after many millions of years of trial and error, and of evolution, we have little better than unregulated chaos, and a life waiting for the knife and the serum. This cannot be accepted.

It is impossible for the informed man, who makes use of his reasoning faculties, to hold the old beliefs and conform to the old practices, and still retain his self-respect. *Hygiene*, therefore, is the open and declared enemy of Medicine and the annihilation of this vast structure of fallacy is one of the most important tasks of contemporary civilization.

In the case of the man who desires to preserve his intellectual rectitude, it is an absolute necessity that he should endeavor to find some reasonable justification for the principles according to which he attempts to order his life. When such a man finds that the current beliefs do not harmonize with true principles, it obviously becomes necessary to his moral and intellectual well-being that such false beliefs be discarded forthwith. When doubt is thrown upon the old medical beliefs and practices, and when these begin to lose their credibility, it becomes imperative that the honest man, desirous of preserving his intellectual rectitude, strive earnestly to discover principles and methods of living that harmonize with the nature of things.

No one was ever better qualified to write a book about Natural Hygiene. Herbert M. Shelton ranks among the foremost authorities on this subject. For over fifty years, he managed his own institution where people from all parts of the world, in varying states of health and impairment, came to fast and learn how to preserve health.

About the Author

Born in 1895, Herbert M. Shelton was a persistent and uncompromising student and teacher of Natural Hygiene. Early in life, he discovered the errors and inconsistencies of all the various therapeutic systems and began to explore, on his own, the ramifications of the fact that health is maintainable only by healthful living.

A prolific writer, he authored innumerable articles and more than 40 books. He was both editor and publisher of the *Hygienic Review* from 1939–1980. For more than 50 years he was the director of Dr. Shelton's Health School. Here he pursued his foremost goal of eliminating people's fear and ignorance of disease and teaching them how they could help themselves to the health which is their birthright.

Back Cover



The SCIENCE and FINE ART of NATURAL HYGIENE

“The Hygienic System is one by which both the well and the sick are cared for solely by the employment of materials and influences conducive to the promotion of health. A Hygienic material or influence is one that is normally employed by living organisms in their development, growth and function. It is that upon which life depends. Hygiene thus becomes the employment of materials, agents and influences that have a normal relationship to life, in the preservation and restoration of health according to well-defined laws and demonstrated principles of nature.”

“There must always be a normal relation between the living organism, whether well or ill, and the material things and conditions that contribute more or less perfectly to sustain physiological phenomena. These substances and influences supply the very materials out of which life and health are built up. Each of them has a direct, positive and indispensable role to serve in those vital processes by which living activities are maintained. An adequate supply of each of these basic needs of life is essential to supply the positive, urgent and constant demands of the vital organs for materials to sustain them in a state of health and vigor.”

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