

THE POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

VOL. VII.

OCTOBER, 1931.

No. 73.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
"SOME IMPORTANT POINTS ON INFANT FEEDING" By BERNARD MYERS, C.M.G., M.D.	I
THE MANAGEMENT OF ABDOMINAL OPERATIONS IN INFANTS By RODNEY MAINGOT, F.R.C.S.	6
POST-GRADUATE NEWS	10
POST-GRADUATE COURSE IN GENITO-URINARY DISEASES	iv

"SOME IMPORTANT POINTS IN INFANT FEEDING."¹

Abridged.

By BERNARD MYERS,
C.M.G., M.D.

THE conclusions arrived at in this lecture represent the opinion formed from careful observation of over a thousand babies who have been under my care during the last five years at the Children's Clinic, the Royal Waterloo Hospital, and the Babies' Hostel, Alexandra Road, N.W.

We endeavour to feed each infant with the requisite quantity of protein, fat, carbohydrate, salts and water during each twenty-four hours, to allow for repair of waste, for growth, and for the production of heat and energy. The different constituents of the food should be in the form which the baby

can digest, and in the correct proportion to each other. All the vitamins must be present in the food and in adequate quantity. The presence of immune bodies and certain ferments in the mother's milk are to the child's advantage.

If properly fed and cared for the baby should gain weight regularly, show normal mental and physical development, possess high immunity to disease and perfect nutrition; all the functions of the body should act normally and regularly and the child be happy, contented and well.

The experience gained from observing numbers of infants in the same institution fed by different methods, shows quite definitely that the breast-fed baby is much more frequently the ideal baby, as judged from the above points, than babies fed by other methods. In my experience this is well borne out in baby shows.

Every mother, therefore, ought as a matter of duty to feed her baby for nine months, but if for any reason she cannot do

¹ Lecture given at the Children's Clinic, 48, Cosway Street, London, June, 1931.