

Other toxic symptoms of dinitrophenol poisoning such as the typical neuritis also responded promptly to the ascorbic acid therapy. This raises the question as to whether the toxic effects of dinitrophenol may not be due to the destruction of the auto-oxidative system elements of the cells as a result of the hyperoxidation which it induces, or whether it be due to direct chemical interaction with them.

The prophylactic treatment of all persons who have been the victims of dinitrophenol for reducing with the therapy in question is indicated; for a number of them who have been examined with the slit-lamp, in spite of the fact that there are no subjective symptoms, show early cataract formation.

An additional noteworthy finding in connection with the ascorbic acid therapy is the regeneration of lens fibers in an eye that had been aphakic following cataract extraction for many years. In this case, after two weeks of therapy, the lens capsule became filled out and the scarred anterior capsule of the lens, as well as the posterior, resumed its normal shagreen, and some of the fibers assumed normal transparency.

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIVER THERAPY IN ANEMIA¹

PRIOR to 1922, no published records or reports are available of the use of liver in "sprue-anemia" by Sir Patrick Manson (1844-1922), although later editions of Manson's works revised by Manson-Bahr, of London, do contain mention of *liver soup* in the treatment of sprue. Sprue was first accurately described by Sir Patrick Manson² in 1880.

C. S. Engel, of Berlin (1898), used "*sanguinoform*" (made by a Berlin druggist and containing hog liver, stomach and other organs) in the treatment of anemia. He also noted an increase in eosinophiles from the use of this hog-organ preparation!

Professor Adalbert Czerny, pediatrician, did *not* mention liver therapy in the treatment of anemia of children before the First International Congress on Pediatrics, at Paris, in his paper on "Rapport sur l'Anémie d'Origine alimentaire,"³ as Oxenius, of Chemnitz, and George Roeder, of Rahway, N. J., claim.⁴

Hans Günther,⁵ of Leipzig, refers to Engel's (1898) use of hog liver and stomach, but does not mention the work of Pirera and Castellino (1912) with liver in anemia nor the use of red bone marrow by Fraser (1894).

R. L. Fenlon⁶ included liver in the diet for pernicious anemia patients.

R. B. Gibson and C. P. Howard, of Iowa City, gave liver daily, together with egg yolk and green vegetables, to anemia patients.⁷

Finally, Professor Alfonso Pirera, of Naples, in his article⁸ on "Intorno ad alcuni problemi recenti di patologia epatica,"—Studio Sperimentale—mentions the research work (1912) with liver juice by Germano and Pizzini and Casiero—using 12 injections of a concentrated liver preparation.

Pirera, of Naples, reviews the subject in his article "Epatoterapia ed emopoiesi epatica. Anemie da disepatismo."⁹

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

ATOMIC SPECTRA

Introduction to Atomic Spectra. By HARVEY E. WHITE. McGraw-Hill Book Company, N. Y. (1934). \$5.00.

ONE of the most interesting chapters in some future history of contemporary physics will amaze the reader with an account of the rapidity with which physicists of the last two decades have brought order out of the apparent chaos of empirical information on the wave-lengths and intensities of spectrum lines.

¹ References: H. I. Goldstein, *Medical Review of Reviews* (New York), 41: 5, 227-229, May, 1935; *Medical Life* (New York), 42: 4, 207-216, April, 1935; *Wiener klin. Wochenschr.*, 16, 496-497, April 19, 1935; *Medical Record* (New York), 142: No. 3, pp. 136-138, August 7, 1935; *SCIENCE*, 80: 2085, 561, December 14, 1934; *La Riforma Medica*, 51: No. 7, 267-268, February 16, 1935; No. 9, 343-347, March 2, 1935.

² *Customs Gazette*, 1880.

In 1924, one of the major problems of spectroscopy, namely, the cause of the fine structure of the alkali terms, was apparently in a hopeless snarl. There was no generally accepted notation for the cataloguing of spectral terms, and the confusion of the various schemes in use was an almost insuperable obstacle

³ *Comptes Rendus de l'Ass'n. int. de Pédiatrie Premier Congrès* (7-9 Octobre, 1912), pages 91-101, 1913, G. Steinheil, Editeur, Paris.

⁴ *Deutsche Med. Wochenschr.*, 60: 51, 1977, December 21, 1934; 61: 23, 929, June 7, 1935.

⁵ "Über Fortschritte in der Diättherapie," *Med. Klin.*, 27: 2, 48-50, January 6, 1931.

⁶ *Jour. of Iowa State Med. Soc.*, XI: 2, 50, February, 1921.

⁷ *Arch. Int. Med.*, 32: 1, 1-16, July, 1923.

⁸ *Il Tommasi*, September 20 and 30, 1912, pages 601-617 and 625-636, Naples.

⁹ *Rinascenze Medica* (Napoli), Anno XI, 13: 22, 683-685, November 30, 1934; 13: 23, 715-717, December 15, 1934.