

**THE PRACTICAL MEDICINE SERIES OF
YEAR BOOKS: COMPRISING TEN
VOLUMES ON THE YEAR'S
PROGRESS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY;
VOLUME VII. PEDIATRICS; ORTHOPEDIC
SURGERY; SERIES 1905**

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GUSTAVUS P. HEAD & ISAAC A. ABT & JOHN RIDLON

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THE
Practical Medicine Series
OF
YEAR BOOKS

COMPRISING TEN VOLUMES ON THE YEAR'S
PROGRESS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

ISSUED MONTHLY

UNDER THE GENERAL EDITORIAL CHARGE OF

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VOLUME VII

PEDIATRICS

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SERIES 1905

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CONTENTS.

PEDIATRICS.

	Page.
Diseases of the Newborn.....	9
Hygiene	15
Contagious Diseases	17
Infant Mortality	20
Examination of 2,500 Atypical Children.....	22
Dietetics	24
Problem of Satisfactory Milk Supply.....	26
Diet After the Age of 1 Year.....	29
Diseases of Nutrition	34
Diseases of the Gastrointestinal Tract.....	40
Diseases of the Stomach (General Review)	40
Recurrent Vomiting	47
Gastric Ulcer	53
Hypertrophic Pyloric Stenosis.....	56
Indigestion	61
Summer Diarrhea	63
Intestinal Obstruction	77
Diseases of the Liver.....	82
Rheumatism	85
Diseases of the Glandular System.....	89
Scarlet Fever	93
Heart in Scarlet Fever.....	97
Serotherapy in Scarlet Fever.....	102
Measles	104
Experimental Measles	106
Mumps	108
Varicella	110
Pertussis	111
Diphtheria	114
Influenza	119
Typhoid Fever	121
Tuberculosis	124

	Page.
Diseases of the Respiratory System.....	127
Diseases of the Circulatory System.....	136
Diseases of the Blood.....	142
Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs.....	149
Diseases of the Skin.....	162
Syphilis	168
Diseases of the Nervous System.....	174
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	174

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY.

Pott's Disease	191
Lateral Curvature	195
Osteoarthritis	195
Congenital Dislocation of the Hip.....	195
Hip Disease	209
Typhoid Joint Disease	219
Congenital Deformities at the Knee.....	221
Bow-Legs	222
Foot Deformities	223
Treatment of Club-Foot.....	230
Transplantation of Tendons.....	232

PEDIATRICS

BY

ISAAC A. ABT

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

PEDIATRICS.

DISEASES OF THE NEWBORN.

Infections of Umbilical Origin in the Newborn. C. F. Soles¹ says, whenever fever occurs during the first week of life, the physician must be careful to examine the stump of the cord or the cicatrix and search for an umbilical infection. The beginning of the umbilical infection is characterized by a slight swelling and tenderness of the stump of the cord, some redness in the edema of the surrounding parts and by a disagreeable odor of the affected cord. The child becomes feverish and may be seized with convulsions. The fever and other general symptoms are often more marked than the slight local changes lead one to expect, because the organism of the newborn so readily reacts with fever against infection. As septic absorption may go on from the cord with scarcely any inflammatory signs at the point of entrance, it is important that the cord be carefully watched and that the dressing should include the use of astringent and antiseptic powders, as dermatol and salol. When infection occurs, the stump of the cord should be treated with the same remedies but, if the cord has already separated, the scar should be washed with boric acid solution or with sublimate and then touched with silver nitrate.

Acute Pemphigus in the Newborn. George J. Maguire² from a record of 18 cases of acute pemphigus in the newborn, draws the following conclusions:

- (1) That the epidemic was one of the comparatively rare disease, pemphigus acutus neonatorum.
- (2) That it was due to infection with a pathogenic organism, the staphylococcus pyogenes aureus, conveyed from case to case by a midwife.
- (3) That, though appearing chiefly in the newborn

(1) Archives of Pediatrics, October, 1904.

(2) Brit. Jour. of Dermatology, December, 1903.