

The symptoms of cardiac insufficiency increased, the pulse became very weak and irregular; patient suffered from great dyspnea and was at times delirious. On January 10, 34 ounces of clear, straw-colored fluid were removed from the right pleural cavity. The cardiac dulness, however, continued to enlarge, the heart showed signs of muscular breakdown; there was marked edema of the legs and blood-stained expectoration.

At autopsy, performed by Dr. Adami, there was 1,600 cc. blood-stained fluid in the right pleural cavity, general anasarca and edema of the extremities. The heart was found to be very much enlarged, pericardial cavity contained 100 cc. of clear, straw-colored fluid. The mitral valve was contracted, its edges markedly thickened without calcification of mitral ring. The mitral orifice showed a slit-like opening about 2.5 cm. in diameter. The left ventricle was greatly enlarged. In the lungs on the right side the lower middle lobes were converted into an enormous infarct, the right pulmonary artery being blocked by an embolus, which with the succeeding thrombus entirely shut off the circulation from this part of the lung. Abdomen and abdominal organs normal. The right common iliac vein showed an old organized thrombus throughout its whole extent, surrounded by numerous bands of adhesions. The lower end of the vein gradually tapering down until it became a small, thin strand of fibrous tissue. At the junction of the femoral and the internal saphenous veins the vessel was completely blocked and showed a very recent thrombus filling in that portion of the lumen not already occupied by the old organized mass. At the saphenous opening the saphenous vein showed a sudden fusiform enlargement, the external diameter at this point being 15 mm. About this thickening there was considerable fibrinous periphlebitis, the main veins and branches were completely obliterated by thrombi, firm, and apparently of some standing, but still red in color. The internal femoral cutaneous veins as well were completely thrombosed, rigid and firm, standing out like hard cords.