

to those to whom milk is disagreeable and nauseating. It has always appeared to me that crushed wheat, rejecting the fibre, and using it as you would gruel, is perhaps, the best.

A word as to purgatives. I must appeal from Dr. Adami, to Graves, who contented himself with giving a laxative at the very onset of the disease, but never afterwards. If one proportions the food to what the patient can dispose of, there will be very little that will pass down the intestinal tube.

With regard to surgical interference, I think, unhesitatingly, one should cut into the abdomen whenever there is the slightest evidence of perforation ; and I do not think that it is always difficult to establish when perforation has taken place. Pain follows a very rapid course, and the pulse will be somewhat clear ; but, even if one does cut, and not find perforation, I do not know that a great deal is added to the risk of the patient. It is better, when one is in doubt, to operate, and I should be disposed to operate early. But the result has not been very encouraging.

Dr. F. R. ENGLAND.—Just one word which has not been touched on. Purgatives have been spoken of, but I do not think that anything has been said with regard to enemata. I remember that the late Dr. George Ross taught that purgatives were very dangerous; and I recollect one case where a dose of castor oil had apparently caused death in a patient who was doing well, with the exception of a little constipation. He taught that in cases where constipation was the rule they were generally favourable cases and got well ; but if the bowels caused anxiety, and he desired to act on them, he would prescribe a small enema of glycerine and warm water. I have generally followed that plan since, with very satisfactory results. I may, perhaps, refer to a very serious case I was asked to see a few weeks ago, where perforation was supposed to have occurred by the attending physician. It was a young woman, 18 or 19 years of age, in whom symptoms had rapidly become serious. There was present a great deal of distension, and the bowels had not been moved for seven or eight days. The pulse was rapid, and there was a great deal of pain. Taking the whole