food, such as muscle fibres, cellulose, etc., the usual nutrient medium of the intestinal flora. The food was too completely utilized to allow the necessary bacterial growth; the stools are consequently nearly odorless, and cannot support enough bacteria to generate the gases necessary for normal peristalsis. The rational cure, then, of this trouble would be, according to the opinions of some therapeutists, a diet of indigestible substances which would provide nutrient media for the intestinal bacteria. While we admit that a diet too restricted in character is apt to produce constipation, we know that a recommendation to use indigestible foods promiscuously is absurd. No definite rules can be given which will suit all men, but clinical observation shows that a carefully selected mixed diet suited to the idiosyncrasies of each patient is the best. Careful study is always required to discover what foods are the best for each patient under observation.

Cause of Cachexia accompanying Neoplasms.

Quite often a small, non-ulcerating, malignant tumor produces such a marked cachexia that we are at a loss to account for it. It was assumed that the tumor cells secreted a poisonous substance which was absorbed by the system, but no one attempted to isolate this toxin. Early this year, however, Kullmann has found that the cells of cancer contain a substance which rapidly dissolves blood corpuscles. This toxin he isolated and injected into the bodies of animals, producing a prompt and active dissolution of the blood corpuscles. A similar substance has also been isolated from the cells of sarcoma.