

the blotched appearance of the skin which is cold and clammy, especially over the extremities, cold perspiration of an offensive odour, the loss of fat, and a lumpy condition of the breasts. Thyroidism in some cases, tenderness over the ilium and mental torpor. In fact the entire symptomatology usually described under auto-intoxication; head-ache, melancholia, inability to sleep, unpleasant dreams, and occasionally persistent diarrhoea, also come under this general classification of symptoms.

The patients who present a sufficient number of these signs and symptoms briefly catalogued above warrant a tentative diagnosis of C.I.S. and should be safely guarded in every way. Wasserman's test should be given where there is a probability of syphilis. When the clinical examination points definitely to stasis, then X-ray examination and the abdomen should be opened. The treatment should be considered under three general rules. First group being cases in which by preventative measures definite condition of stasis may be obviated. Mid-group are mild cases in which by preventative measures and by modern surgical procedures such as cutting bands, replacing hollow organ, changing angles and the severe degrees of stasis are forestalled and the necessity of more radical surgical remedies may be prevented. The end group are advanced cases in which despite preventative treatment or because of insufficient treatment the condition progresses to the degree of stasis which requires a more radical surgical procedure, such as short circuiting, ileocolostomy with colectomy. The surgeon who is called upon to explore the abdomen in every case such as this approaches more or less of a mystery. However, careful the examination may be the diagnosis is somewhat uncertain until the abdomen is opened and it is important therefore that the operator bear in mind that rare conditions may be found where commonplaces are expected and that he be able to cope with whatever state of affairs may be encountered.

#### THE RESULTS OF AUTO-INTOXICATION ON THE TISSUES.

I will now pass on to consider the consequences which result from absorption chiefly from the stomach and small intestines, and of the product of bacteria or chemical changes which exist in abnormal quantity in the material from which the food supply of the individual is obtained. The infection of food supply is consequent on the damming back of the material in the small intestines and stomach. It would appear that very little poisonous material in the small intestine is absorbed, unless by a super-added infection of its mucous membrane. This is demonstrated very clearly by the study of the congenital dilatation of the colon. Whatever the material is that is absorbed into the circulation in simple stasis very little known, but if it is presented in the quantity in excess of what can be dealt with by the liver, kidneys, skin certain very defined symptoms