

in the plasma and the white blood cells fibrin is formed. In this simple manner are elaborated the various inflammatory exudations. The serum is part of the plasma of the blood. The fibrin is produced by the union of the fibrinogen in solution in the blood plasma with substances contained in the white blood corpuscles. The pus cells are emigrated white blood cells. Besides the changes thus described as occurring in the blood vessels and circulation, in some cases the surrounding connective tissue cells take an active part, and by their multiplication are produced new cells, which, at first of small and indifferent type, later assume the characteristics of connective or granulation tissue. If they die, they help to form pus cells. In what has up to the present time been termed chronic interstitial inflammation of the internal organs, constituting such diseases as hepatitis and nephritis, this formation of connective tissue is the principal part of the inflammatory process, there being little or no formation of serum, fibrin, or pus. In a very interesting address delivered before the last meeting of the British Medical Association, Professor Roy said: "I must remind you that the much-abused term inflammation cannot be so freely used as has hitherto been the case, and we must now exclude many pathological processes which, in the past, have been considered and called inflammations. For instance, many of the so-called chronic interstitial inflammations are, we now know, due to local anemia from narrowing of the blood vessels or other cause, whereby the blood supply is rendered insufficient to maintain the relatively active metabolism of certain tissue elements, which are replaced by fibrous tissue, whose nutritive changes are less active. The same is the case with most, if not all, of the parenchymatous inflammations, which are mostly due to malnutrition or chemical destruction of the functionally active tissue elements, and which, in many cases, leads to their being replaced by fibrous tissue; in other words, to interstitial inflammation so-called, following so-called parenchymatous inflammation. We must also exclude from the term those processes of repair where the increased activity simulates the true inflammatory process. Leaving these and other cases aside, we find that at the present day the inflammatory process is narrowed down to the results of a localized invasion of the pathogenic microbes."

This position, which Professor Roy takes, is practically that taken by Senn in his "Principles of Surgery," where he says that true inflammation is always caused by the presence of one or more kinds of pathogenic microbes. The position of these teachers, shortly stated, appears to be, "No microbes—no inflammation." If this dictum is adopted by the authors of our text-books, it will readily be seen that our present terminology of disease will have to be, to a great extent, altered. Concerning interstitial hepatitis or cirrhosis of the liver, the idea has hitherto prevailed