

2. Simple abrasion of peritoneal surfaces without infection may, but seldom does, lead to permanent adhesions.

3. Infection of the peritoneal cavity may clear up and leave no permanent adhesions.

4. Abrasion of peritoneal surfaces in infective cases generally leads to permanent adhesions.

5. When denuded surfaces are left after breaking down abdominal adhesions, the introduction of sterile oil into the belly cavity lessens the chances of re-formation of the adhesions.

6. When sterile oil is introduced into the peritoneal cavity at the same time that an experimental peritonitis is produced it has very little beneficial effect on the course of the disease. Glisson has shown, however, that if the oil is introduced some hours before the infecting organisms, it exerts a distinct protective influence by raising the defensive powers of the peritoneum.

7. The ileus which occurs so frequently and is so fatal in cases of general peritonitis is partly due to a weakening of the peristaltic power of the wall of the gut by toxæmia, but added to this there is the mechanical obstruction due to multiple soft adhesions; these, indeed, are the predominating factor and can, to a large extent, be prevented by the widespread diffusion of oil between the intestinal coils at the time of operation. In addition this tends to prevent the formation of localized purulent pockets and promotes free general drainage.—*Birmingham Medical Review*.

An Excellent Investment

The two great things to be considered when investing money are, first, security for the principal, and, second, the income to be derived from such investment.

An ideal investment is specifically protected by a mortgage on properties of undoubted value and marketability, leaving a good, wide margin for shrinkage.

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