goitre. W. J., aged 27, an Englishman, has been troubled with goitre for eight months. It interferes with his breathing, especially when he stoops. As he is a farmer this prevents him from working. Thrill and bruit present and pulse rate 102 to 110. Slight tremor and muscular twitching. Exophthalmos is absent, but Kocher's sign is distinct, viz., sudden retraction of the upper eyelid when the patient is made to look steadily at his examiner. Right lobe and isthmus removed. Patient left hospital on ninth day. Four months after operation his physician writes to say that the man is quite well and working every day.

The Anesthetic.

I still use a general anesthetic, preferably chloroform, or a mixture of chloroform and ether, *administered by an expert.* We have always followed the rules mentioned in my former report (7), and in none of my cases have we had any serious difficulty.

The Technique.

The distinguished gentleman, who is to open the discussion on Surgery to-day (Dr. Crile, of Cleveland), has done much to aid the surgeon in the carrying out of this operation by his teaching as to blood pressure and the use of adrenalin, while the elevation of the head and shoulders of the patient, especially in operations for Graves' disease, materially reduces the amount of blood in the field and the resulting hemorrhage.

The transverse incision is the one chosen in most cases, and the technique has changed but little during the last four years. There is one change which perhaps should be noted. Instead of transfixing and tying off the pedicle (which is usually the junction of the isthmus and the lobe to be left behind), I now tear through this pedicle with a blunt dissector and seize and tie any small vessels which may bleed. This is practically the only operation in which I use silk in ligating the vessels. The possibility of cat-gut ligatures slipping or untieing in a very restless patient and resulting secondary hemorrhage has so far deterred me from using it.

I am thoroughly impressed with the importance of another feature in the technique of thyroidectomy, viz.: the avoidance of excessive manipulation of the gland during the removal. In some of the earlier cases where this rule was not carefully observed the convalescence was quite stormy. I am now convinced that this was largely due to hypersecretion caused by unnecessary manipulation, this, of course, being followed by undue absorption and the production of a toxic tetany. The manipulations must be gentle and the various steps of the operation carried out in a precise and clean-cut manner.