

titles of fluid containing a good deal of evenly diffused blood. In spite of this fact there was no anemia.

Gastric hemorrhage has sometimes a purely nervous origin. Enterospasm. By this term is meant "a condition in which there is a spastic contraction of the muscular wall of some part of the intestine. This may cause symptoms of varying intensity, from those of chronic constipation to such as simulate acute intestinal obstruction."

W. A. S.

Report of Two Successful Cases of Removal of the Spleen for Splenic Anemia.

By G. A. SUTHERLAND, LONDON, and
Mr. F. F. BURGHARD. *The Lancet.*

On admission, the blood count in case number one was 2,420,000, the hemoglobin being 40%. Three days after the operation the count was 4,700,000, and the hemoglobin 76%.

Case No. 2 gave a count of 1,870,000, and hemoglobin 30% a week before the operation, and a count of 4,000,000 and a 52% of hemoglobin 4 days after the operation.

The details of the operation are described.

"If we assume a loss of vaso-motor control in the splenic artery leading to overfilling of the spleen with arterial blood, it is possible to understand all the morbid changes in the blood. The spleen itself would be enlarged and its substance generally. Malpighian corpuscles, endothelial cells, connective tissue, etc., would be in a state of active hyperplasia. This is the usual condition found after splenectomy and post-mortem, with the added changes which time has brought in prolonged cases. At the same time the functional activity of the spleen would be increased, and the function which is usually ascribed to it, that of removing red corpuscles by means of its large endothelial cells. Instead of mere scavenging work it is easy to understand that these endothelial cells, in greatly increased numbers, may attack not only effete cells, but those which are healthy, and that active hemolysis and destruction of hemoglobin follow."

W. A. S.