

sterile water is administered. The vulva is washed with a bichloride solution (1-1000) and a sterile pad applied.

8. All aseptic precautions as to dishes, hands, etc., are to be observed in the preparation.

9. When placed upon the operating table the vagina as well as the vulva is finally prepared by washing with green soap and water, followed by several changes of sterile water, next with bichloride solution (1-1000), then by sterile water, and a gauze shield placed over the vulva.

10. The abdominal field of operation is now exposed by separating the division in the blankets. Rubber sheeting is placed above and below the exposed area, the gauze shield removed, and the abdomen well washed with green soap and sterile water, next with alcohol, next with bichloride (1-1000), and finally flushed freely with sterile water and covered with a moist gauze protector.

11. Four towels are then placed around the area of operation, pinning them at the corners, leaving only sufficient of the abdomen exposed as will be required for the incision. The laparotomy sheet is now laid on and four more towels placed around the opening in a similar manner to the first set. Finally moist towels are placed above and below the field of operation.

C. PREPARATION OF THE OPERATOR AND HIS ASSISTANTS.

1. The surgeon and his assistants are required to clothe themselves in long operating gowns which have been previously sterilized.

2. The hands and arms are thoroughly scrubbed for ten minutes with green soap and warm water, using a sterilized hand brush. They are then immersed for a few minutes in a warm saturated solution of permanganate of potash; next in a warm saturated solution of oxalic acid until the stain is removed; next in sterile water; next in bichloride solution (1 to 1000), and finally washed off in sterile water or salt solution.

D. THE FURTHER MAINTENANCE OF THE CHAIN OF ASEPSIS.

1. The *trays*, *basins* and *jugs* are rendered sterile, by moist sterilization, in a large steam sterilizer.

2. The *instruments* are boiled for ten minutes in water to which has been added a few crystals of carbonate of soda.

3. *Ligatures* and *sutures*. Three kinds of sutures are usually employed—silk, silk-worm gut and catgut.