Autopsy.—Moderate dilatation of the heart, with slight hypertrophy. Microscopically, no fatty degeneration. Slight diffuse fibrosis of kidneys. Lungs show abundant reddish froth on cut surface. Bronchi contain reddish froth. Other organs normal.

(The opinion given was that, while the heart and kidneys were not perfectly normal, there was not sufficient change in them to indicate that chloroform inhalation would be dangerous.)

I may append another case of death under chloroform, not in the present series.

S. L., aged 25, male. Died after inhaling ʒiv. of chloroform from a Junker inhaler, preparatory to operation for removal of a bronchocele, in the Montreal General Hospital. The operation had not been commenced.

At the autopsy, the only abnormability noted was a decided enlargement of the spleen, which weighed 300 grammes, and a slight enlargement of the kidneys, which weighed 210 grammes each. The heart was found to be absolutely normal.

In both these cases the chloroform used was Duncan and Flockhart's. No analysis of the anæsthetic was ordered.

In answer to a question from the coroner as to whether chloroform was liable to cause death in healthy people, I stated that it was regarded by many as a dangerous anæsthetic, whose use was only advisable where for some reason ether could not be employed. The occurrence of two deaths from chloroform in a city where no death from ether has been recorded for several years, though ether is given probably five times as often as chloroform, seems to me to bear out this statement.

In neither of these cases was the death shown to be in any way due to carelessness or want of skill on the part of those administering it. The usual restoratives—including hypodermics of strychnine—were employed, but, as usual, without result.

ILLUMINATING GAS.

One case of death from this cause, included in my hundred cases, is sufficiently typical.

W., aged 74, who had never been in a city before, was told by the bell-boy in a Montreal hotel that he "could not" blow out the gas. He was found dead in bed next morning, having apparently perished through the attempt to demonstrate the falsity of the bell-boy's statement. The room was small and smelt strongly of gas.

The body, when viewed by me 48 hours after death, showed nothing unusual beyond an extensive rose-red colouration of the skin in the dependant parts. I was unable here to state that this was due to the characteristic change in the blood from the presence of carbon-monoxide, as the body had remained for so long a time in a very cold place, and in bodies kept in the cold a rosy-red change of the superficial parts affected by post-mortem lividity is very common. No autopsy was asked for, and the verdict was death from inhaling illuminating gas.

Some blood obtained after the inquest from the femoral vein was bright cherry-red in colour. On diluting and examining with a hand-spectroscope, *two distinct absorption bands are seen, which appear*