

so far opposed to the practice of the former speaker as to allow his patients no food for several days after operation.

GUTHROD asserted that salt solution so far from preventing intestinal obstruction actually produced irritation of the peritoneum and hyperleukocytosis, so as to inhibit phagocytic action.

Repeated Laparotomies in a Short Time.—DÖDERLEIN (*Zentralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1905, No. 17) reported a case in which he was obliged to open the abdomen three times within a week! On the third day after laparotomy for ectopic gestation the upper angle of the wound burst open from obstinate coughing, and a loop of small intestine was forced out—the first time that this accident had happened to the reporter in the course of 1000 abdominal sections. It was necessary to entirely reopen the wound, cleanse and replace the gut. Complete intestinal obstruction developed a few days later, when the abdomen was opened for the third time, several loops of intestine were punctured, and the patient made a good recovery.

Glandular Infection in Cancer of the Uterus.—BAISCH (*Zentralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1905, No. 17), from observations based on 120 cases at the Tübingen Clinic, arrived at the conclusion that in operable cases of corporeal cancer the glands are never involved, but that in cases of operable cancer of the cervix they are affected in 30 per cent. of the cases.

According to this writer, extension of the disease through the lymphatics to the glands follows a fairly constant rule. As long as parametric tissues are still healthy, there is little probability of the glands being involved, but the contrary does not hold true, since both the parametria and glands were diseased in 15 per cent. of the cases, while the glands alone were the seat of metastases in 50 per cent. Metastasis is two or three times as frequent in adenocarcinoma of the cervical canal as in epithelioma of the portio vaginalis.

The author concludes that from an anatomical standpoint the vaginal method best meets the indications in corporeal cancer, while for the other forms of malignant disease there is not yet sufficient evidence to determine whether the abdominal or vaginal route is to be preferred. The primary mortality of the abdominal route has been reduced to 7 per cent. in the last 45 cases in the Tübingen Clinic, 25 patients having been operated upon without a death. After two years 44 per cent. of the patients remained free from recurrence. The writer was unable to decide whether the principal advantage of the abdominal over the vaginal method was the opportunity of more extensive removal of the parametria or removal of the glands. Over 50 per cent. of the patients who submitted to the radical operation in 1902 and 1903 had had recurrence.

In the discussion of this paper Guthrod was opposed to removal of the glands, since it was impossible to determine macroscopically which ones were affected. Such extensive dissection was required in the Mackinroot operation that there was great danger of necrosis of the denuded ureters. The speaker believed that recurrences usually took place in the vaginal cicatrix. As regards the results of the vaginal operation, the statistics of cure in Olshausen's clinic had been 39 per cent.