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Connective Tissue.—This heading includes operations for abscesses and inflammatory conditions.

Ear, Nose and Throat.—Amongst these were operations for the removal of tonsils and adenoids, and several cases of submucous resection for deviation of the nasal septum.

A MODIFICATION OF THE BURRI METHOD OF DEMONSTRATING SPIROCHÆTA PALLIDA.

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A disadvantage of Chinese ink for demonstrating Spirochaeta pallida is that unless it is prepared by centrifugalization or, as Captain Frost has recommended, by the addition of tincture of iodine, the field is too granular to make the detection of S. pallida at all easy.

I have found that a more homogeneous field is easily obtained by substituting for Chinese ink a suspension of collargol. The suspension is prepared according to the directions of the makers (Chemische Fabrik von Heyden), one part of the powder being made up with nineteen parts of distilled water. The powder is first put into a black bottle (or an ordinary bottle wrapped round with black paper) and the distilled water poured on it. After standing for a few minutes the bottle is well shaken and again allowed to stand, it is shaken again and is then ready for use. The suspension is used exactly as if it were Chinese ink, a loopful of the suspected serum and one of collargol being mixed together at one end of a microscope slide and then spread like a blood-film.

The film may be examined with an oil-immersion lens as soon as it is dry; spirochaetes appear white on a reddish-brown field which is almost perfectly homogeneous. The examination requires a fairly good light, but good daylight is sufficient.

As a diagnostic measure this method of demonstrating S. pallida has the same disadvantages as the Chinese ink, the chief of these being loss of the characteristic movements of the spirochaete. Under dark-ground illumination I have seen extremely delicate spirochaetes in the secretion obtained from the surface of sores which were non-syphilitic. I would therefore strongly urge that particular care be taken to clean the sore beforehand so as to prevent surface organisms from contaminating the exudate from the deeper layers.