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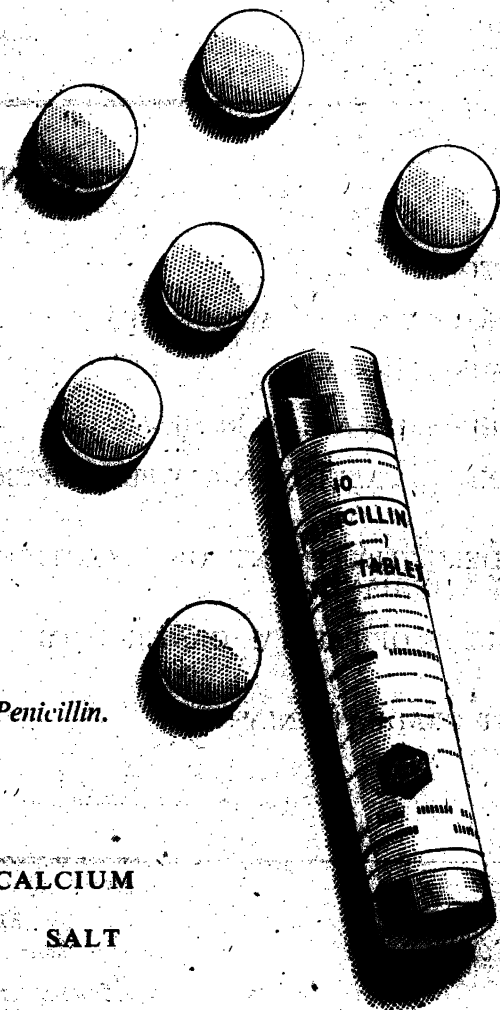
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Summary

Regional enteritis, Crohn's disease, enterocolitis, cicatrising stenosing enteritis, pseudo-tuberculosis or whatever title one likes to give, is a non-specific granulomatous disease, similar histologically to tuberculosis and sarcoidosis, but differing from each in certain fundamental respects. Its aetiology is unknown and may well be multiple. It gives a clear-cut clinical picture which

is usually sufficient for a diagnosis and well marked X-ray appearances which are rarely absent. Regression is possible but extension is the rule, with fibrosis, obstruction and fistula formation. The treatment is usually surgical, either by a short-circuit operation with exclusion or a short-circuit operation with resection. It is difficult at present to assess the value of these two operations but where practicable resection is probably the treatment of choice. Whatever method is used recurrence is possible and a radiological follow-up essential. Medical treatment may be effective in a few cases where the disease is localized and can be kept under observation.

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