

2. The secondary abscess, which is the result of the direct extension of the inflammatory process from the primary abscess to other parts of the abdomen.

3. The abscess which accompanies subsequent attacks of appendicitis.

Among the 499 cases of appendix abscess there were 11 cases of residual abscess which were opened at intervals after the operation varying from ten days to seven weeks.

There were 12 cases of secondary abscess. Six of these were sub-diaphragmatic (4 being on the right side and 2 on the left). Two were opened three weeks after the primary abscess had been drained, 3 two weeks after, and 1 nine days after.

Five of the secondary abscesses were situated in the pelvis while the remaining one pointed at the external abdominal ring. These were opened from twelve to twenty-one days after the primary operation, with the exception of one pelvic abscess which was opened seven days after.

Finally, in 14 of the cases in which there were further attacks of appendicitis, the attacks were again accompanied by abscess formation. Three of them returned a third time with another attack of appendicitis and another abscess.

#### *Pregnancy.*

Among the 1,000 cases of operation were six women who were pregnant. Of three patients who were operated upon for general peritonitis, two were six months pregnant. Abortion took place three to five days after the operation in each case, and all the patients died; one on the fifth day, one on the thirteenth, and the third on the eighteenth day (after an attack of secondary haemorrhage from a vessel in the pelvis).

Of 3 cases who were admitted with an appendix abscess 2 were six months pregnant, and 1 was four months pregnant. One patient aborted ten days after the operation, and another four and a half weeks after the operation; they both recovered. In the third case pregnancy was undisturbed.

The above table shows the result of the investigation into the frequency of further attacks of reputed appendicitis after abscess formation or general peritonitis. It also gives the number of patients who stated that they had attacks of pain subsequently to the removal of the appendix during the quiescent period, "similar to those they had before the operation."

Letters were sent to 797 patients, and replies were received from 506.

Of 264 cases of abscess or general peritonitis, further "attacks" were complained of in 27 cases, or 10.2 per cent.