

is so frequently the case in children, they should also be reduced in size. In the latter matter, I know, I differ with some of my confreres, who advocate, even in children, complete tonsillectomy, while I agree with Delaven, McBride, Simpson and other leading men, who believe that free tonsillotomy is much better for the child.

However that may be, by rendering nasal respiration perfectly free through nase-pharyngeal operations, we remove the primary cause of many of the diseases of the upper air tract, some of which might ultimately affect the orbit. Take, for instance, Ballenger's fatal case, already quoted, of cavernous sinuses, thrombosis of otitic origin, in which the eye and throat were both involved. What caused the original otitic trouble? Does not every aurist know that the majority of severe ear cases have their origin in obstructive lesions in the nase-pharynx? The probability is that if the adenoids had been removed in early life, something over which Ballenger had no control, the otitic disease would not have occurred, the cavernous sinus would have remained normal, and the child's life would have been saved. This reasoning, of course, is only hypothetical, still in the majority of instances it would be sound. And we cannot too strongly urge the advisability of keeping the pharynx as well as the mouth, in as nearly a normal condition as possible, if we wish to avoid many of the diseases that children so frequently suffer from.

BLUNDERS FROM TEMPORIZING.*

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Mr. President and Gentlemen:

When I was a student, more years ago than I like to count, it was impressed upon me that there are three special emergencies in practice with which every medical man, whether his tastes are surgical or not, must be prepared to deal promptly and efficiently.

1. Obstruction of the air passages.
2. A distended bladder.
3. Strangulated hernia.

Now in modern practice there are other emergencies perhaps not so imminent, but equally vital, in which the life of the patient depends upon quickness of decision and prompt action, and it must be within the knowledge of every impartial observer and a matter of regret to every man proud of his profession that numerous valuable

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