

bacteria, which are prone to attack the appendix, an organ possessed of but slight resistance.

The treatment should be eliminative. He has used acetozone with success. He gives calomel, 1-4 grain doses every two hours till bowels move. Operation in the first forty-eight hours gives the best results if intoxication is not too great.

#### DISCUSSION.

Dr. DeWitt (Wolfville, Nova Scotia) believes that intoxication is an important factor in appendicitis. He uses enemas of salines or boracic acid and calomel or olive oil internally.

Dr. Hornibrook closed the discussion by stating that appendicitis was both a medical and a surgical disease, and that it was impossible to state early which cases would end fatally.

#### THE SIZE OF THE PUPIL AS AN AID TO DIAGNOSIS.

By J. T. Duncan, M.B., M.D.C.M., Toronto.

*The Size, the Shape, and the Mobility of the Pupil.*—Size: They may be contracted, dilated, or unequal. Shape: They may be circular, oval, or irregular. Mobility: Instead of reacting to light, or other stimulus, they may be immovable or fixed. It is the object of this paper to point out the deviations from the normal that may occur, and to show their signification. The muscular fibres of the iris run in two directions: the circular or contracting fibres supplied by the third nerve, and the radiating or dilating fibres supplied by the sympathetic. But another factor has to do with the size of the pupil, the blood supply of the iris. The vessels in this structure run in a circular plane, and so many are present that it has been classed with the erectile tissues. Engorgement of these vessels causes contraction and depletion, dilatation of the pupil. The size of the pupil is thus seen to be influenced in three ways: (1) By the circular fibres of the iris; (2) by the radiating fibres; (3) by its blood supply. Any stimulus applied to the third nerve, acting on the circular fibres, will cause contraction of the pupil. A stimulus applied to the sympathetic will cause dilatation of the pupil. Stimulation of the third nerve, with paralysis of the sympathetic, gives pin-point pupils, and stimulation of the sympathetic, with paralysis of the third nerve, will give extreme dilatation.

*What Irregularities may Mean.*

(a) Pupils evenly contracted—myosis—may indicate: (1) Locomotor ataxia (tabes dorsalis); (2) meningitis and encephalitis (early stages); (3) chronic inflammation of the cervical