

tioners. A wide range of surgery has been faithfully surveyed, and good abstracts of many valuable papers which have appeared in the surgical literature of the year have been presented. Excellent digests have also been given on important subjects by the editor. His *résumé* on appendicitis is particularly interesting, and this important disease is handled in no uncertain manner. A study of the pathology is made to indicate clearly that operative treatment is the only safe and rational practice. One is told that safety lies in early surgical intervention, and not as a *dernier resort*. The question: Should cases of general suppurative peritonitis be operated upon? must be answered by "yes." If no evidence of intense toxaemia and collapse, the quantity of pus and extent of infection do not count against operation. The non-operable cases are those where there is present meteorism, intestinal paralysis, projectile vomiting, cold and clammy extremities, anxious expression and low pulse tension. The article on diseases of the upper extremity is most interesting and important. Carl Beck's valuable paper is epitomized in which the importance of using the X-rays for diagnostic purposes is urged in all injuries in the neighbourhood of the wrist joint. Beck reports in his paper 104 cases of fracture of the carpal end of the radius (Colles fracture) which he had examined with the X-rays; 21 of these cases showed fracture of the head of the ulna as well. He points out the importance of an accurate knowledge of the exact lesion, and he maintains that frequently the X-rays is our only means of settling whether a given case is to be treated by immobilization or by massage.

F. R. E.

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