

operated 368 cases, with one death, 1.3 per cent. mortality. Total, 565 cases, with 20 deaths, 3.5 per cent. mortality: The statistics contain all patients who entered the hospital suffering from appendicitis; even those who died a few hours after admission.

Of Classes 2 and 3, all were operated, so there can be no doubt concerning their diagnosis. Of Class 1, all but 4 were operated, and these were in an absolutely hopeless condition when they entered the hospital. I will state also that during this time no patient suffering from appendicitis was refused admission into the hospital.

Judging from the authorities upon this subject, our mortality of 55.5 per cent. in diffuse peritonitis is as low as that recorded by any of the authors whose statistics contain a considerable number of these cases, while some authors with less than half this number report as low as 20 per cent. mortality. Krogius has compiled the statistics of fifty-eight authors whose combined mortality is a little over 70 per cent.

As compared with my own experience in former years, when all of these cases were treated surgically at once, my experience in this series of cases of diffuse peritonitis following appendicitis is quite encouraging.

It is in the second class, however, in which the greatest benefit from the treatment is found. In this class, according to most modern authorities, Murphy, Mynter, Porter, Lennander, Bull, and many others, there is a mortality of at least 20 per cent. This, in my cases, has been reduced to 5 per cent., and had the treatment been instituted at the beginning of the attack, I am certain that the mortality could easily have been reduced to one-half of this. In Class 3 there should have been no death. Many of these cases had been treated through their acute attack by the method I have described, before being sent to the hospital. But as not all of the cases I treated outside of the hospital came later to operation, it is not fair to utilise these in demonstrating the value of the method.

Again, I have treated a large number of cases through the acute attack of appendicitis with this method which have never been operated, and which I have not included in my statistics, because the correctness of the diagnosis could not be established by actually demonstrating the condition present in the appendix.

However, the fact that there was a mortality of less than one-third per cent. in so large a number of cases is significant. It shows the value of a method by which