

He considers the condition more commonly due to altered secretion of the bile ducts, the altered mucus causing inspissation of the bile. Infection of bile he thought takes place in two ways, through the bile ducts and through the portal circulation. In the matter of treatment he considers that no drugs stimulate the flow of bile to the same extent as the bile salts. The flow is increased by exercise and deep breathing. Diet should be carefully considered, should be simple, and as far as possible should contain a large amount of fat. Such patients should drink plenty of pure or mineral water. The patient should also have due regard to a proper method of dress; no corsets or constricting clothing should be worn.

*Surgical Diagnosis* was introduced by Dr. James Bell, of Montreal. He said it was common to find early vague signs of gastro-intestinal indigestion, which were often found to be present for a long time before an acute attack was precipitated. He spoke of the colon and typhoid bacilli as common causes of infective conditions.

The subject of *Surgical Treatment* was introduced by Dr. J. F. W. Ross, of Toronto. In commencing his paper Dr. Ross expressed a certain lack of faith in the so-called medical treatment of gall stones. Speaking of some details of gall stone operations, Dr. Ross advocated drainage through Morrison's pouch. He laid great stress on the free use of gauze packing to prevent leakage into the peritoneal cavity. In gangrene and empyema of the gall bladder he does not advise removal of the gall bladder, but prefers opening, flushing and draining. In many cases of cystic enlargement of the gall bladder, however, he advised entire removal of the viscus. It is well to remember, after removal of the gall bladder, that gall stones may form in the liver and may pass out into the intestines. He considers mucous fistulae, which occasionally follow operation, as the most troublesome, and said the evil should as far as possible be prevented by the use of a small drainage tube. He also drew attention to the importance of being sure that the drainage tubes did not become blocked.

The discussion of the surgical treatment was led by Dr. G. E. Armstrong, Montreal, who recognizes and re-