

the dressings were removed for the first time. The cavity was found perfectly clean and free from pus. The temperature, which had previously been in the neighbourhood of 100 in the evening, fell to normal, though it rose again, but gradually subsided to normal. Between two and three months after the operation epidermization appeared to be complete, though there was at times a slight discharge, which seemed to be from the Eustachian tube. Marked improvement followed the removal of the adenoid later on. Though the patient has left the city, I heard the other day that she is completely well; there is no discharge and her health is excellent.

R. H. CRAIG, M.D.—I have done this so-called radical operation three times. A great disadvantage often is the loss of hearing entailed by the loss of the ossicles, but when one considers the close proximity of pus to the meninges, it is the more necessary to consider such a radical operation.

Dr. BYERS.—As regards the time of healing, the conditions in the ordinary mastoid operations and in the radical operations are entirely different; in the one case it has to do merely with healing of the flaps, while in the other complete epidermization of the cavity has also to take place. With regard to the odour, since I have studied otology, I have always associated a certain peculiar smell with bone caries, and I believe the sense of smell can be largely relied upon in the diagnosis of this condition. I quite agree with Dr Kerry that all cases of cholesteatomata do not call for radical operation. There certainly are cases which can be cured by the ordinary methods; but, as a general rule, in cases of chronic mastoiditis the undoubted presence of cholesteatomata is another powerful reason why one should undertake the operation. Dr. Craig has perhaps laid too much stress upon the danger to hearing. Grossman has collected all the material from the Berlin clinic, and shown that in the cases where the nerve reactions had been found to be normal before the operation, in fifty per cent. of the patients the hearing was actually improved, remained unchanged in twenty per cent of the cases, and was made worse in the remaining thirty per cent. These results are in accordance with those which have been obtained elsewhere, and go to show that, while the prognosis must be most guarded, one is more likely to obtain improvement than impairment of hearing.

LANTERN DEMONSTRATION.

The paper of the evening was read by Dr. Byers on the surgical treatment of chronic suppurative otitis media, with special reference to the radical operation. This was illustrated by lantern slides, and a series of mounted bone preparations showing the various conditions.