

That the spermatozoa *may* and *do* find their way into the abdominal cavity Bischoff has proven beyond a doubt; both he and Parry have seen them on the ovaries. Of this Leishman says "the ovum, as has been shown, is developed within the ovary in the Graafian vesicle; while yet it occupies that position, even before rupture of the vesicle has taken place, impregnation may occur.

Parry, in his work on "Extra-Uterine Pregnancy," does not think it difficult to conceive of the rupturing of the Graafian follicle and the ovum remaining, and thus affording a better opportunity for the spermatozoa fecundating the egg in its very shell. He says, "When we remember the process by which the ovum escapes from the Fallopian tubes it may occasion no surprise that it should be sometimes retained even after rupture of the vesicle of De Graafe has occurred."

Regarding the functions of the tubes and ovaries, Mr. Tait has proven conclusively that ovulation *can and does take place before, during, or even after* menstruation ceases, and that the change at puberty of greatest importance is in the functional movement of these accessory organs—that is, the "grasping," so to speak, of the ovary by the fimbriated extremity of the tube at only stated times or during the menstrual epoch. Ovulation and menstruation are not always coincident; the passage of an ovum does not always take place, though the fimbriated extremity is grasping the ovary, since it frequently happens that at such times no ripe ovisac present. If, then, as has been shown, ovulation continues inter-menstrually when the tubes are quiescent, the question arises, What becomes of the ovum when the sac ruptures? There is only one place it can go, and that is into the peritoneal cavity, where it perishes and is absorbed.

Mr. Tait, in his work on "Diseases of the Ovaries," says, "I believe that the ovum falls into, and perishes in, the peritoneal cavity in by far the greater number of cases, and that the passage of it into the uterus occurs in only a small percentage."

The ovule is short-lived, and if not vivified in the tube by contact with the male element degenerative changes will destroy its vitality before it reaches the uterus. Charpentier and other recognized observers claim that after it passes the outer third of