

appendix should arouse suspicions of cancer, and the meso-appendix should be widely excised, and glands looked for and removed. The removal of the entire meso-appendix, whenever possible, and the microscopic examination of the appendix is advocated in all cases of appendectomy.

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RETROSPECT OF DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

SCHEUER. "Acquired and Congenital Defect of the Kidney." *Zeit. f. Heilk.*, Bd. 28, H. 4.

Leo Scheuer reports in *Zeitschr. f. Heilk.*, Bd. 28, H. 4, some cases from the autopsy room of a children's hospital. In children dying of other diseases (number of total autopsies not given) he found, during routine examination, absence of one kidney in five cases. Whether such absence is due to non-production of the organ or to rudimentary condition can be determined, he claims, only by microscopical examination. For instance, in two of his cases the microscope revealed definite renal structure. In the remaining three no trace of kidney could be found. True congenital defect is generally accompanied by other defects in neighbouring organs, *e.g.*, double uterus, imperforate anus or urethra. The bearing on surgery is obvious.

PACKARD. "Aspirin as a Cause of Nephritis." *Arch. of Pediatrics* (N. Y.), April, 1908.

Maurice Packard presents a case of hæmorrhagic nephritis apparently associated with the exhibition of aspirin.

A child, four and a half years old, whose entire history was irrelevant, complained of sore throat and chilly sensations. T. 103°, P. 124, R. 28. Urine normal. Throat extremely injected, no membrane. Diagnosis: rheumatic tonsillitis. Aspirin gr. v every four hours was ordered, with ice spray as a local measure.

After two doses (10 grains) the fever subsided and the throat was better, but the child appeared worse. He was sleepy and œdema was present in the face and over the shins. The urine was scanty and of a uniformly bloody colour; microscopical examination revealed numerous blood casts, fragmented red blood cells, renal cells and leukocytes disproportionate to the blood percentage. The aspirin was at once stopped and the patient given several hot baths, when improvement quickly occurred, the urine becoming normal in a week's time. Finally, in order to demonstrate, if possible, the causative relation of the drug it was again given (5 gr.), when albumen, blood casts, epithelium promptly