

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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### APPENDICITIS A CAUSE OF INTUSSUSCEPTION.

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IT is generally admitted that irregular peristaltic action is often if not always a cause of intussusception, and such being the case it struck me a few years ago that there might probably be a causative relation between appendicitis and intussusception. Appendicular colic is caused by irregular peristaltic action, which action is set up by the inflamed appendix. This being true, a complete case of cause and effect would be established. The inflamed appendix causes spasmodic narrowing of a section of the bowel, of which colic is the expression. The contracted portion of bowel is drawn by the longitudinal fibres into the bowel below where nature treats it as a foreign body and endeavors to get rid of it by expelling it through the anus.

Since arriving at the conclusion that there was a very probable relationship between appendicitis and intussusception, I have operated on five cases of infants with intussusception, and in each found an inflamed appendix, two of them being very seriously inflamed. It would be going too far to say that five cases proved a theory, but they at least establish a strong presumption of the truth of the theory. In the two cases where the appendix was acutely inflamed there was marked evidence of intestinal trouble, for more than twenty-four hours before the intussusception occurred. Had the appendicitis been diagnosed and the appendix removed at once the much more serious complication would have been avoided.

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### SOME EXPERIENCES OF A RURAL M. O. H. IN ENFORCING THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

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WE are living in a great age. The greatest the sun has ever illuminated. No one of us but has seen and know from day to day of greater achievements than the seven wonders of the world, greater even than their creators ever dreamed. Men to-day tackle problems the like of which the world has never known, and do it with a smile, and the word failure seems to have slipped into the far-off yesterday. The de-