

This gives us in the three groups of 268 cases, 64 deaths or a mortality of 24%.—Leaving out the hopeless cases of group 3, we have 210 cases with 10 deaths or a mortality of 4¾%, which is altogether too high. I believe that if the cases of appendicitis were operated upon within the first 24 hours of the attack, by competent surgeons, the mortality would be less than 2%, possibly not more than 1%.

The ages of the patients varied from 2½ to 60 years, the majority of cases occurred in young adults.—175 were males and 93 females.

The length of the appendix varied from 1 to 6½ inches long, and it was found radiating from its attachment to the coecum, to all points of the compass.

In the majority of cases no difficulty was found in locating the appendix. Two of the cases however were unusual, in each of these, the peritoneum was reflected from a point on the coecum, above the junction of its longitudinal bands to the wall of the iliac fossa and neighboring viscera. There were no signs of adhesions or inflammatory products. The peritoneum was incised below the coecum and by careful dissections the appendix in each case was found post coecal, containing pus, but no perforation.

Of the appendices removed, a few presented comparatively few lesions, although the symptoms were pronounced. I attribute this to the faulty positions they occupied. In the other cases all degrees of inflammation existed, from a simple catarrhal one to a gangrenous mass.

The vermiform appendix in man is the rudimentary representation of the long coecum, which exists in many of the lower animals, and being a rudimentary organ, its powers of resistance are diminished.

The normal appendix varies from 2 to 3½ inches long, usually covered with peritoneum, and possesses a mesentery containing nerves, lymph, vessels, veins, and a single artery which supplies the appendix but does not anastomose with other vessels, except possibly in the female, where the appendix receives an additional blood supply through the appendiculo ovarian ligament. The mesentery varies in length, in many of the cases it is too short causing the appen-