

7 occurred in cases where the suppuration was localized. Krecke describes 119 cases operated upon, of which 68 died.

Hawkins, of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, describes a series of 11 cases of diffuse purulent peritonitis, all of which were fatal.

While the above statements will be generally accepted as regards diffuse peritoneal infection, there will be an equal unanimity of opinion that during the last few years considerable advance has been made in the operative treatment of localized infection, this being very largely due to the work of American surgeons. A careful study of well-prepared statistics from different countries will, however, reveal the fact that in even in localized infective suppurative conditions there yet remains a considerable opportunity of diminishing the death-rate in connection with operative procedure.

If, for instance, we take localized inflammations in connection with appendicitis, it will be found that the brilliant results obtained by so many operators have been in cases in which the local conditions have been of a favourable character, but that where infection spreading from the appendix has led to severe localized swellings, associated with suppuration or gangrene, the results have been much less satisfactory. In this relation it is of interest to refer to statistics of operators regarding large numbers of appendicitis cases.

Porter of America gives the following interesting analysis of 448 cases :

Recoveries .....	371.		
Deaths .....	77.		
Average mortality .....	17.23	per cent.	
A. Removal of appendix during attack :			
Recovered .....	120=	80.3	per cent.
Died.....	20=	19.7	per cent.
B. Removed during quiescence			
Recovered .....	13=	92.86	per cent.
Died.....	1=	7.14	per cent.
C. Incision and drainage of abscess :			
Recovered.. ..	154=	81.82	per cent.
Died.....	54=	18.18	per cent.
D. Appendicitis without operation :			
Recovered . . . . .	82=	86.32	per cent.
Died.....	13=	13.72	per cent.

Hawkins, of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, analyses 264 cases as follows :

	Death.	Recovered.
A. Non-purulent perityphlitis .....	0	190
B. Purulent perityphlitis .....	10	28
C. General peritonitis.....	27	9
Operative treatment to above :		
1. Appendix removed once in (A).		
2. In (B) Abscess opened and drained in 33 cases.		