

of the injections laparotomies performed, frequently revealed freshly developed corpora lutea; therefore, the sterility existed in spite of a normal process of ovulation.

The author believes the resulting sterility is due to an undetermined combination of "immunity reaction" and direct hormone action, the former playing the major rôle.

S. B. SOLHAUG.

Hoehne: The Physiology of Conception. Zentralblatt fuer Gynaekologie, 1921, xlv, 1047.

Hoehne studied seven tubes from patients known to have had sexual intercourse prior to operation. Examining the tubes one, two, three, and seven days after known coitus, he found one dead spermatozoon in the neighborhood of the infundibulum of the tube after a lapse of 20 hours. This contradicts the finding of Nuernberg, who had positive results 13 to 15 days after the last coitus. The question is worthy of further study. Hoehne also reported the discovery of an unfertilized human ovum obtained through irrigation of the uterine cavity. This was the result of numerous experiments made in the hope of finding an unfertilized ovum some ten days after the beginning or five days after the end of a normal menstruation. The ovum in this case was relatively small, its maximum diameter being only .07 mm. H. M. LITTLE.

Graves: The Gynecologic Significance of Appendicitis in Early Life. Archives of Surgery, 1921, ii, 315.

That the appendix may undergo considerable grades of inflammation and yet be restored to a condition of approximate normality is seemingly an established fact. That the serofibrinous exudates thrown out during an attack find their way into the pelvis is granted. That these exudates frequently lead to extensive adhesions is well known. It requires, therefore, little speculation to assume that this process not infrequently involves the adnexa of young girls following more or less acute attacks of appendicitis. The adhesions thus formed may interfere with the normal development of the ovaries or obstruct the patency of the tubes. Graves has found the adnexa so embedded in adhesions as to be indistinguishable and the uterus undeveloped, years after an attack of appendicitis in early life.

This condition is, at times, the direct cause of later dysmenorrhea and probably also of ectopic gestation later, but Graves feels that it is especially important as a cause of sterility. He, therefore, urges prompt operation in cases of appendicitis in young girls, not simply on account of the appendix, but because of the serious harm which may be done to the adnexa. He reports three cases in which there appeared to be a direct relation between the adnexal adhesions and nondevelopment, and foregoing attacks of suppurative appendicitis, for which operation had been performed in earlier life.

R. E. WOBUS.

Couvelaire: Sterility in the Female. Le Progrès Médical, September 17, 1921, p. 438.

In reviewing the statistics of Paris, Berlin and Rio de Janeiro, the author finds that about 13 per cent of couples who have been married for 14 years are without children. About 60 per cent of such childless marriages are attributable to the woman, while in the remaining 40 per cent, the causal factor may be found in the male.