Tympanoplasty i.e. Plastic Surgery of the Sound Conducting Apparatus of the Ear

JOINT PAPER BY

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INTRODUCTION

The work is based on rehabilitation of deaf by surgical procedures in dealing with two main and rather intricate problems of resistant types of chronic otorrhoea:—

*i.e.* (1) Eradication of Mastoid and Middle ear disease and (2) Preservation and Restoration of hearing.

The classical radical surgery of the mastoid has so far been undertaken not for the relief of deafness but for the cure of chronic suppurative otitis media and its complications which, if left alone to have their own course, are a constant menace not to hearing alone but to life as well.

Upto the present time there has been a belief that chronic persistent otorrhoea with deeper lesions could be controlled only by a radical mastoid surgery consisting of exploration and exenteration of all diseased mastoid air cells which could be possible only at the sacrifice of the hearing of the patient.

Thus it was thought that deafness of chronic suppurative otitis media was unlikely to be benefitted by operations (Maxwell Ellis 1954). According to Lempert, Wever, Lawrence
and Maltrew (Archieves Oto-Laryng. 1949) the drop in hearing in cases of total loss of the tympanic memb, or after operation in radical mastoidectomy was due to the fact that both the oval and the round windows were equally exposed to the external sound vibrations and whatever small hearing was possible was due to the difference in anatomical situation and in elasticity of the two windows oval and round. They further reiterated that any gain in hearing, if noted, after radical mastoidectomy was possible through special hearing conditions by which the oval and the round windows may have different pressures and elasticity.

**Middle ear After Classical Radical Mastoidectomy.**

Tym. memb. destroyed Malleus and Incus absent Both oval and round windows are equally expose to the external sound vibrations.

Slide 1.

It was Fritz Zollner—a German Otologist who took advantage of this interesting observation of spontaneous plastic results and reported in the Journal of Laryngology and Otology (London) 1955, an article on the principles of Plastic Surgery of the sound conducting apparatus. He named it as Tympanoplasty. It is a new surgical method which answers both the requirements and rests upon sound Physiological and Pathological grounds.