

use of epinephrine in any form during anesthesia is fraught with danger.

Still, the rôle of the adrenals in ether anesthesia is purely speculative, and considerable clinical evidence tends to militate against these conclusions in respect of this agent. This cannot be said of chloroform, however; all evidence, clinical as well as experimental, tends to show that twilight sleep produced by this anesthetic, and the use of epinephrine during that state, are dangerous measures. And this, as pointed out editorially in this journal as long ago as December 2, 1905, will probably be found to apply to other agents, used for the same purpose; although these have not as yet been submitted to close scrutiny so far as their relations to organic carbon dioxide and epinephrine are concerned.—*N. Y. Medical Journal*.

THE ABUSE AND DANGERS OF PITUITRIN.

Drs. Rongz and Arluck, in the *N. Y. Med. Jour.*, make the following statements:

ing statements:

1. Pituitrin does not induce labor pains.
2. It should not be used in the early part of the first stage of labor, for its action is too transient.
3. It should not be used in complete inertia because of danger of rupture of the uterus.
4. It is contraindicated in cases of dystocia due to malposition or contracted pelvis.
5. It should never be used in cases in which a sudden rise of blood pressure may prove dangerous.
6. A single dose of pituitrin may be used as an adjuvant in cases where pregnancy is interrupted, either by catheter or bag, and only when contractions of the uterus have already set in.
7. It should be used only in cases in which the cervix is dilated or dilatable and the presenting part engaged in the pelvic outlet.
8. It should be used cautiously in cases in which the fetal heart sounds are feeble or irregular.
9. It should never be used unless a general anesthetic is within easy reach, for the contractions may become so violent that rupture of the uterus becomes imminent.

Finally, the conclusions reached in this paper are based purely on personal observations of the action of this drug in a very large series of cases. We feel that it may not be in accord with the experience of many other observers, still we maintain that in order to obviate many com-