

immediately in ice freezers has been found efficacious in preventing the development of bacilli. This seems better and produces a more digestible article than the sterilized milk.

Dr. Machell thinks the simple sterilization alone is not sufficient to make cow's milk fit for the infant.

Dr. Rotch's formula is :

Cow's milk	3ii.
Cream	3iij.
Water (previously boiled)	3x.

To each pint two measures of sugar of milk sterilized for twenty to forty minutes, then add one ounce limewater at time of feeding. This produces a milk almost identical with mother's milk.

Dr. B. E. Mackenzie thinks it important that the child should be fed at regular intervals. The great difficulty arises from the large size of the coagulum of cow's milk. The milk should be allowed to stand two or three hours and then pour off the top of the milk. This increases the amount of fat material.

Dr. Greig, in reply, claims that milk is altered in its chemical composition by being kept too cold. If the artificial digestion be not carried out too long, the milk will not become bitter.

GYNECOLOGICAL AND OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE.

February meeting.

The President, Dr. Henry M. Wilson, in the chair.

Dr. Neale reported a case of occlusion of the os uteri during four days parturition.

Dr. J. Whitridge Williams read a paper on
THE INDUCTION OF PREMATURE LABOR IN
CONTRACTED PELVES.

He pointed out that the comparative neglect of the operation in this country was due to two causes—the absence of large lying-in institutions, and the consequent lack of large amounts of clinical material, and the almost total neglect of pelvic measurement. By the term premature induction of labor one understands the artificial interruption of pregnancy at such a period that a viable child may be born; that is any period from the twenty-eighth to thirtieth week to the end of pregnancy.

Dr. Williams then went into the history of the operation, and showed that it was first rationally employed for this indication in England, as the result of a conference of the eminent physicians of London in the year 1756. Within fifty years it was quite generally employed on the continent and soon enjoyed a popularity which caused it to be resorted to on the most trifling pretexts, and which in 1869 called forth Spiegelberg's forcible denunciation of the operation, by which he showed that the mortality both of the mothers and children was nearly three times greater after the operation than if the woman went on to term. This was soon followed by articles by Litzmann and Dohrn, who showed that Spiegelberg had painted the picture in colors far too dark.

Litzmann showed that in moderate degrees of contraction, 8.25 to 7.5 cm. ($3\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 in.), the operation was indicated in the interests of the mother, as shown by a mortality of 7.4 per cent. after the operation compared with one of 18.7 per cent. when the woman was allowed to go on to term.

Dohrn stated that the proper method of appreciating what the operation accomplished was not to compare so many cases of induced labor with so many cases of labor at term, but to compare the results of premature and spontaneous labors in the same woman; by this method he found that twice as many children were saved by inducing labor as by allowing the woman to go on to term. Consequently they proved that the operation was indicated in properly selected cases both in the interests of the mother and child.

The introduction of antiseptic methods into midwifery almost completely robbed the operation of danger for the mother, as will be readily seen from the following statistics. Thus, Haidlen reports forty-four cases from the Stuttgart clinic, with no maternal deaths and 72 per cent. of the children saved.

In 1889 Korn stated that Leopold lost one woman in forty-five cases, and saved 66 per cent. of the children. And last July Ahlfeld stated that he had induced labor 118 times with the loss of only one mother, and had saved 62 per cent. of the children. At the Berlin Congress, Tehling stated that in sixty cases he had save all the mothers, and 80 per cent. of the children.