

large fecal accumulations by means of the long tube with oil. "If we pass next to the neuroses that attend morbid or diseased conditions of the uterus and ovaries," says Barnes, "we get even more striking evidence of causation." Among such conditions his experience proves displacements to be quite frequent and retroflexion or version, with prolapsus, the most common of all; pressure upon the sacral plexus and irritation of the highly organized (female) lower cord is the explanation. He has himself cured a number of cases of insanity, due to such causes, by surgical or other treatment, relieving the uterine disease, and he quotes similar cases from Brownington, C. E. Louis, Mayer, Schroeder, von der Kolk, Fleming, Maudsley, Arbuckle, of the West Riding Asylum, and Groisinger.

Ovarian disease is of equal, or even greater importance as an agent, producing mental alienation, but with regard to this phase of the subject a new factor presents itself for consideration in the by no means infrequent development of insanity as a *result* of operation for removal of the ovaries. Sir Spencer Wells has had such experiences. Dr. Savage, of Birmingham, had, out of 483 double ovariectomies (26 deaths), 4 cases of insanity. Thomas Keith has not observed any mental failure following removal of the ovaries alone, but out of 64 hysterectomies with removal of both ovaries, six (6) became incurably insane. Lawson Tait, on the other hand, with an equal if not greater experience, has never observed any case of insanity among his patients [non-observance does not necessarily involve non-existence]. The author suggests that the subject should receive most careful and extended investigation. Such experiences are not, after all, an argument against operation or other procedure for the cure of ovarian disease, which precedes and probably causes the mental disturbance. As to the question, "Are we justified in operating upon a lunatic who cannot give a responsible assent, clear indications existing for the operation?" the author quotes the advice of the English Home Secretary, Sir Wm. Harcourt: "If she is incapable of judging for herself, treat her as a child." Barnes does not believe in the advisability of removing the ovaries for epilepsy, the experience of Lawson Tait having been decidedly unsatisfactory. Incidental reference