

The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery

A JOURNAL PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE INTERESTS OF
MEDICINE AND SURGERY

VOL. XXIV. TORONTO, AUGUST, 1908.

NO. 2.

Original Contributions.

OBSTETRICAL TECHNIQUE.

BY FREDERICK FENTON, M.D., C.M.
Associate in Obstetrics, University of Toronto.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.—It is not my intention to take up this subject exhaustively, but rather to present a few points in the routine management of obstetrical cases for discussion. For the purpose of this paper I use the term technique to include all the routine procedures from the engagement to attend a confinement to the last visit. The subject naturally divides itself into three main heads, viz., Pregnancy, Labor and Puerperium.

The management of pregnancy should be placed in the physician's hands as soon as the woman realizes her condition, and the physician, on his part, should accept his responsibility, and be ready to instruct and direct his patient upon matters which it is well she should be informed for her own good.

Such matters as clothing, exercise, bathing, rest, diet, care of breasts and nipples, regulation of bowels, etc., are all of sufficient importance to warrant their being gone into in detail with the patient early in pregnancy. A little information on the subjective signs of the complication of pregnancy may be the means of leading many women to apply for assistance before it is too late. To do this requires the spending of time which it is not always convenient to take from other more pressing cases. To save myself, and at the same time do justice to my patients, I have been in the habit of supplying each patient with a small booklet giving the required information in concise form at the first consultation.