

warrant it, to stave off an abortion. But if gestation has gone to seven months or over and symptoms are urgent, or if the child is dead, delivery should be promptly made. If gestation has gone on to full term and convulsions have set in, the uterus should be immediately emptied. The essayist then discussed the treatment. Sedation by chloroform, chloral, morphia and the bromides, bleeding, purgation, diaphoresis and diuresis were the points to be observed in treatment. The rationale of these various phases of treatment and their relative value were referred to.

A Case of Abscess of the Lung, by Dr. J. S. Hart. The patient was a young woman aged twenty-two, who, when the doctor first saw her, was suffering from pyemia. There was marked tenderness over the right iliac region. The doctor leaned to the diagnosis of typhoid fever for ten days, when suddenly the patient began to cough and expectorate purulent material. The lower lobe of the right lung behind was dull. Shreds of lung tissue were found in the sputum and streptococci. Patient remained much in the same condition for some days, when she began to discharge pus from the vagina. In three months recovery took place.

The Study of Dried and Stained Preparations of the Blood, by Dr. Harold Parsons.

The Present Status of the Radical Cure in Inguinal Hernia.—The discussion in surgery was next on the programme, and Dr. George Bingham, of Toronto, opened with a paper dealing especially with the various operations for inguinal hernia. The merits and demerits of McEwen's, McBurney's, Halsted's and Bassini's operation were explained, and shown by lantern slides on a large screen. In the experience of every operator, operation on children gave the best results, and the larger number relatively operated upon the less the percentage of deaths. In any event the percentage of deaths should be less than one. As to recurrences, such are sure to take place, and a radical cure should never be claimed until at least one year had gone by. Femoral, umbilical and ventral hernia were touched upon.

Dr. J. Wishart, of London, followed, and said he had been operating for some years. He began with the McBurney, but was led to abandon this on account of the large percentage of recurrences, 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. No operation seemed at the present time to be the ideal one, but Bassini's seemed to give the best results. Every operator would find, however, that cases were to be judged on their merits, and the various operations modified as the operator choosed. As to sutures, silk was by no means a good material for buried sutures. Kangaroo tendon gave the best results with the speaker.