

Eclampsia at the sixth month of pregnancy is usually more dangerous than at term.

The onset of jaundice nearly always indicates a fatal termination. A weak, fast pulse and anuria are very grave signs. Sudden and almost unexpected death after apparent improvement must not be forgotten. Only about 1 per cent. of cases recur, and there is usually a chronic nephritis underlying this.

THE TREATMENT OF ECLAMPSIA.

Through the kindness of my chief, Dr. Albert A. Macdonald, the Associate Professor in Gynecology and Obstetrics, I have been given a free hand in the choice of methods used, and the opportunity to present this paper. From personal experience in such great international clinics as the Sloane Hospital for Women, New York, the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, and others, I have chosen those methods which seemed to me to give the best results. We have now elaborated a plan of action to be used in the treatment of eclamptics at the Western Hospital, subject to such variations as are needed by individual cases. While each step has been used and commended highly by various authorities and heartily condemned by others, the technique we now follow is not generally adopted elsewhere to the exclusion of most other procedures. I contend that the treatment we use is as rational and scientific as our knowledge of the disease will allow.

To be generally and successfully carried out, a technique must be simple and the apparatus uncomplicated and cheap. We are training our house surgeons and students for actual possible practice. Therefore, while immediate vaginal section has given good results in selected cases in skilled hands under ideal conditions, this state of affairs occurs to but few. The intelligent country practitioner can carry out everything essential in our technique.

Just how far we may carry certain procedures, no matter how excellent in themselves, must ever be a matter for most careful judgment.

Prophylaxis.—"Prevention is better than cure." In a large number of cases, eclampsia may be prevented when the danger is known. "Forewarned, forearmed." The public should be educated to take preventive measures against disease. The day will soon be here, I trust, when the life of a woman or child will be considered of greater value than that of a hog. Most of the accidents and preventable diseases associated with