

He advocated the more frequent use of the cystoscope. Freyer was able to announce good results, and he was surprised that, with the immense amount of material at his disposal, he did not announce more of them, because he was able to carefully select his cases. We in Canada here could not so pick and choose, but were forced to do our best to relieve all sufferers. In his mind the one objection to the suprapubic method was the poor drainage obtained.

Dr. Holmes (reply) strongly advised more careful study of the Bottini operation. No general anesthetic was required, and he believed it had a great future before it.

Dr. Bingham—The contracted bladder was easily raised by the hand in the rectum. The bladder should be sutured to the abdominal wall before opening.

Dr. J. Campbell Meyers (Deer Park) read a splendid paper on "Neurasthenia in Some of its Relations to Insanity."

#### DISCUSSION.

Dr. McKenzie (Bracebridge) emphasized the importance of the subject, stating that neurasthenics were frequently met with in country practice. These cases fall easy victims to the quacks. It was a matter of great difficulty to carry out isolation in many cases.

Dr. Ferguson (Toronto) said that neurasthenia and the earlier forms of insanity are several links in the same chain; the exact situation of the boundary line is beyond human judgment. Pronounced cases of neurasthenia or insanity are easy of diagnosis, but between these there is a series most puzzling to us all. The question is one of physical disturbance, the great feature being that the slightest mental effort produces exhaustion. Again, the nerve system becomes so depleted of all energy that physical exertion is impossible. The condition is a nutritional change first, followed later by an anatomical one. The dendrites fail to absorb sufficient nutriment from the brain matter, and the slightest possible effort exhausts this limited supply. Disorganization sets in and the sickly, weakly, though normal, cell becomes a morbid and pathological one, and ultimately disappears. The conditions producing these effects are: 1. Prolonged worry; 2. Sudden mental shock; 3. Over-work and no rest; 4. Some toxemia which affects the brain, destroying the nerve cell.

Dr. Hunter (Parkdale) would like to know the position hydrotherapy occupied in Dr. Meyers' treatment. A woman under his care, suffering from a pronounced form of neuras-