

# CARCINOMA UTERI REMOVED BY VAGINAL HYSTERECTOMY.

The woman, æt. 51, first complained nine months ago of pain in the lower part of the abdomen. She lost no blood, and there was a slight vaginal discharge. On examination some thickening was detected, and Dr. Sweetnam advised operation. One month ago vaginal hysterectomy was performed, and the patient is now going about in apparently good health. In abdominal hysterectomy the mortality is seventy-five per cent; vaginal hysterectomy less than twenty-five per cent. Very few patients have lived beyond four years after vaginal hysterectomy; the reason probably is that the operation has not been performed early enough. The immediate results in vaginal hysterectomy are excellent. From the fact that we remove more tissue and therefore free of the disease, in vaginal hysterectomy it will probably be found that the remote results are better than in abdominal hysterectomy.

Dr. Macdonald, referring to the treatment of carcinoma uteri, said that nothing was more hopeless than the outlook after the older methods of operating, *e.g.*, scraping out the disease and painting with perchloride of iron, etc. He referred to the statistics of Price in abdominal hysterectomy, and of Kelly in vaginal hysterectomy, which go to show that good results have been obtained by experienced operators in both operations.

Dr. Machell was under the impression that in certain localities the pendulum of professional opinion was rather swinging the other way, and that in New York, for instance, vaginal hysterectomy was not performed nearly as often as formerly. Sims' method of treating these cases was, after all, not so bad; the curette was used, and the cervix and part of the fundus removed, then chloride of zinc applied. The method yielded good results. Four or five years ago, Dr. Machell operated thus, cauterized thoroughly; the patient still lives in good health. Vaginal hysterectomy in this case would have been a more serious operation, and the result could not have been better.

Dr. Sweetnam, in reply, stated that he believed the unfortunate remote results were due to the fact that advanced cases had heretofore been the class selected for vaginal hysterectomy. Per-

sonally, he did not see why surgical principles applied elsewhere in the body should not be acted upon in treating a carcinoma uteri, and he thought early and free excision the method indicated.

Dr. Sweetnam showed specimens of

## NECROSIS OF THE SKULL BONES.

These sequestra he had removed from the skull of a man æt. 23. Three years ago he had been struck with a soda-water bottle, inflicting a scalp wound. The pericranium had been stripped off, and as a result necrosis occurred. More than half of the frontal bone and a large portion of the parietal perished. Dr. Sweetnam dissected up flaps of soft tissue and removed the sequestra.

Dr. Greig read a paper on

## INFANT DIETARY,

which appears at page of 197 THE CANADIAN PRACTITIONER.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. Macdonald said that he has found it hard to get infants to take milk which had been digested before sterilization, because it renders the milk bitter. If, however, the peptogenic milk powder be used by the cold process, then the infant will take it more readily. When we can send a sick child to the country near the source of supply for the milk, the danger of contamination is minimized, and benefit results.

Dr. Oldright stated, on the authority of Whittaker, that tubercular disease may be transmitted in the milk of a diseased cow without the udder being of necessity itself diseased. Jersey milk has been found of great value by Dr. Oldright in cases in which nothing else would agree. The good effect of Jersey milk seems to depend on the larger percentage of fat and the small quantity of albumin present.

Dr. Shaw said that Dr. Booker has investigated extensively; he has never found any one particular bacillus the cause of <sup>any</sup> <sup>one</sup> <sup>kind</sup> of diarrhoea. *Proteus vulgaris* in children, produce gastro-intestinal trouble in children. Cats fed on milk from udders carried a disease. Dr. Abbot, of Baltimore, found that bacillus tubercu- more, found, last summer. Three sterilizations will develop in pure juice a perfectly pure milk. Cows milked or