

experience of twenty years with it confirms the good impression originally conceived. Nicholson's arguments in favor of thyroid extract in five or ten-grain doses for the same purpose are plausible, and I intend to give it a trial; but there are cases in which the ingestion by the mouth of five-grain tablets would be difficult or impossible.

Finally, I would urge the advantages of treating eclampsia in a well-appointed hospital. Nothing is more disheartening than the inadequacy of this treatment observed, in consulting practice in private houses. If cases of eclampsia were transported in an ambulance without delay to a hospital well appointed for their treatment and with a staff thoroughly drilled in the management of such cases, the mortality could be kept at or under 13 per cent., which is less than half what it is in private practice. In other words, a patient would have more than double the chance of recovery than she has in her own home.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. JAMES TYSON said that many years ago he had gone carefully over this subject and had come to the conclusion that a large majority of cases of puerperal eclampsia was due to nephritis, and that he had never had any occasion to change his views, although his practice in eclampsia due to pregnancy had ceased. He considers one of the strongest evidences in favor of the theory that the eclamptic attack is due to a toxic condition, the result of imperfect elimination, and in turn due to nephritis, is that women having Bright's disease previous to marriage are almost invariably taken with eclampsia at the birth of the first child. He had recently been surprised to learn of the change of view regarding the etiology. He had recently discussed the question with one of the adherents of the later views who had favored him with a paper on this subject, and it seemed to Dr. Tyson that the very cases reported tended rather to confirm his original view that in the majority of cases eclampsia is due to nephritis, the result of toxic absorption, probably from the fetus, and defective elimination from the blood of the mother with the usual consequences of this condition.

Dr. M. HOWARD FUSSELL referred to a case of eclampsia early in pregnancy which he saw in Dr. Tyson's ward at the University Hospital. The woman was three months pregnant; she had nephritis