

Pubotomy and Artificial Delivery. Fehling (*Munchener medizinische Wochenschrift*) gives as indications for pubotomy: (1) All contractions of the pelvis in primiparæ. (2) In multiparæ who refuse to have Cæsarean section performed, or where difficulties arise during labor from the size of the child or position of the skull, which demand an enlargement of the pelvis in the interests of the life of the child.

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One-Child Sterility.

Dr. Frank S. Matthews, of New York, has an article in the May number of *Surgery, Gynaecology and Obstetrics*, in which he reports the inspection of a thousand consecutive gynaecological histories taken from dispensary practice to learn the frequency of this condition. There were seventy-five cases of sterility in women married over three years; eighty-two of one-child sterility.

The causes given by the doctor are gonorrhœa, sepsis, retroversion or flexion of the uterus, tumour, etc. He concludes that "one-child sterility" is as frequent as absolute sterility. It is usually due to a pathological condition of the female genital tract. It is not a congenital but an acquired sterility. Gonorrhœa is the commonest single cause.

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Remedies in Urinary Diseases.

In an article entitled "The Internal and External Remedies in Urinary Diseases and their Operative Value," which appeared in the *Medical Record* of May 18, C.R. O'Crowley brings to notice the comparative value of the drugs used in urology, contrasting the old and new. Diluents, pure and mineral waters are useful, because of their water solely. Sodium benzoate is the best agent

used to alkalinize the urine. Potassium acetate, nitrate, citrate, and tartrate are most useful as diuretics and antacids. As antiseptics hexamethylenetetramine is most valuable in subacute and chronic urinary diseases. Opium and its alkaloids, and belladonna are both useful as sedatives and antispasmodics. Antihæmorrhagics are of little use. Digitalis is useful only by its action on heart pressure and should not be used in acute kidney troubles. It must be used with discrimination. Caffeine is especially useful in dropsy, but is a stimulant to the kidney and not applicable in acute nephritis. Among antibleorrhagics sandalwood is least irritating, and copaiba next. The irritation depends on the contained terpenes. The newer silver preparations do not depend for their value on their bactericidal power, which is small, but upon their greater penetration into the urethral submucosa and effect upon the gonococci, and their nonirritating character. For irrigation saturated solution of boracic acid and formalin are recommended. Astringents are useful after the germs are gone from the urine.

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Gastric Atony.

Writing in the *Medical Record* of May 11, under the caption "Insufficiency of the Gastric Muscle," M. Gross says that insufficiency, or atony of the stomach is a relatively frequent affection. It differs from ectasy only in principle, not degree. Atony is a manifestation of local or general disturbance of nutrition and circulation, such as leads to general muscular and nervous debility. A simple insufficiency may be changed into a mechanical one by reason of mechanical impediments and permanent hypersecretion. In simple atony the contents are always evacuated, while