

hyaline casts, and frequently free blood. On boiling, this urine frequently goes solid. The total nitrogen excreted is markedly diminished. These cases usually have severe convulsions. The post-mortem findings are naturally most marked in the kidneys. The kidneys are swollen, the cortex thickened, pale and congested, the markings less distinct, and the capsule not adherent. Microscopically, the cells of the cortical tubules are swollen, in many places disintegrating. The vessels are injected, and the tubules contain much granular material. (Cragin.) At other times there are areas of actual necrosis. In short, we have an acute toxic nephritis.

Eminent authorities claim that the liver lesions are characteristic of the disease (Williams, Jürgens, Klebs, Pilliet and Schmorl, etc.), on the other hand, equally famous men say the essential lesions are in the kidneys (Winkler, Knapp, etc.), I think that a fuller explanation is that both organs are affected and, when very unevenly so, that organ the more affected dominates the pathological picture, and presents a distinct type.

The brain may have edema, anemia, thrombosis, and necrosis. Degenerative changes also occur in the heart to an extent clinically detectable, and clearly marked post-mortem. The spleen, pancreas, and other organs are affected.

The causes of death are of interest in that they show what to avoid, where this is possible. Asphyxia, exhaustion, heart failure and shock, toxemia, edema of the lungs, septic aspiration pneumonia, anuria, cerebral hemorrhage and thrombosis, and edema of the brain, acute yellow atrophic and necrotic hepatitis, and acute nephritis.

*Diagnosis.*—Eclampsia has to be distinguished from phosphorus poisoning, which simulates the liver type of eclampsia, and convulsive poisons such as strychnine, from uremia, epilepsy, hysteria, malingering, etc. From a practical standpoint, however, there is rarely serious difficulty. If a pregnant woman comes into the hospital with a history of having had convulsions, and on catheterizing her, a small amount of urine is obtained which has a high specific gravity, albumin and blood, granular and hyaline casts, free blood, and there is edema of the tissues, a high blood pressure, coma, or jaundice, I make a working diagnosis of eclampsia and treat accordingly without delay.

*Prognosis.*—This should always be guarded. Stroganoff has the best records of a large series of cases, 6.6 per cent. in 400 cases. From that the mortality goes up to 66 per cent. Generally the greater the number of fits the poorer the outlook.