

He expected as a result of a recent advance in the knowledge of the innervation of the regenerative organs, as worked out by the Cambridge school, that a sounder basis of treatment would follow. As all parts of the body were related we did not know what the general effect might be of the removal of any one organ. He suggested that the gynæcologists might make valuable observations in this line.

Dr. LOCKHART, in reply, said he could not claim to have cured 50 per cent. of his cases by the use of drugs. With regard to the use of the stem pessary, it was always his practice where it was required, to insert it at the time of the operation, and to remove it before the patient left her bed.

Those who object to the bicycle for women should remember that it might be a question of use or abuse. He considered it essential that the wheel should be carefully selected and proper directions given as to the amount of exercise to be taken. He objected strongly to the routine use of potassium bromide and conium, believing that the exhibition of sedatives would not effect a cure.

Dr. GARDNER felt that he had not made himself clear with regard to the varieties of dysmenorrhœa; the classes mentioned he intended to represent types, as a large proportion of the cases was complex.

He considered the neglect of mothers and guardians to inform their charges of the onset of menstruation was very common indeed, and was scarcely short of criminal. In his experience the English were much more guilty than the Americans in this respect.

As a method of treatment in the neurotic form he had had pronounced success from the prolonged administration of the hypophosphites of lime and soda given in doses of from one to two grains freely diluted after each meal. Phosphide of zinc had proved satisfactory in a few cases in some instances after mechanical treatment had failed. Nutritives were of the greatest value, but he was a little more conservative with regard to the use of iron. In neurotic cases if suspended at the approach of and during menstruation, it was of value. Often, in the congestive form, it was injurious, the patient might gain in color, but she would suffer more severely at the periods.

The treatment by electricity was sometimes followed by brilliant results, using the negative pole of the galvanic current for a few minutes with a weak current.

He thought there was something we did not understand about the influence of the introduction of sounds into the uterus on painful menstruation. Often, after having passed the sound for diagnostic purposes, perhaps three or four periods following would be free from pain. He cited the case of a patient who came once every four or five months for five years, simply to have the sound passed.

Hot baths he had used for a long time, and bromides he thought of some value. For a few days before the advent of the period, in some cases, he used the bromides and conium, while in the intervals he employed curative measures.