

eight cases delivery was terminated by the use of the forceps. Of these five were median and forty-two low. Two cases were nephritic with marked odema and it was deemed advisable to terminate labor quickly.

ANESTHETICS.

In the most recent report by Siegel of Freiburg in a series of over 200 cases, ethyl chloride by inhalation was administered as a routine during the stage of expulsion. This is done in order to further obviate any recollections of pain.

It has been found that in order to carry out this form of treatment successfully, the patient must be constantly kept under the influence of the drug. Should she at any time during the course of the treatment partially regain consciousness, she will not only recollect the pain which she actually experienced, but will reconstruct the entire progress of labor. Such isolated periods of relative consciousness are termed by Gauss "isles of memory." These are more apt to occur during the stage of expulsion. In our series we do not find it necessary to resort to the use of the general anesthetic for this purpose.

Ether was the anesthetic used when artificial delivery was performed. The use of chloroform for any purpose during labor was abandoned by us about three years ago. The patients were very quickly narcotized, taking the ether very readily and consuming very small quantities of it.

CONTRAINDICATIONS.

With the possible exception of kidney complications and primary inertia, we find no contraindications for the use of this method. Zweifel even goes so far as to recommend it in eclampsia and reports three cases treated successfully.

Endocarditis was present in eight cases with no untoward effects as a result of this mode of treatment. On the contrary we believe that this procedure is especially efficacious in labors associated with cardiac diseases, for it tends to eliminate, not only the mental anxiety, but the actual physical strain induced by the patient's efforts to help labor along.

CONVALESCENCE.

It is interesting to note how little these patients are physically affected by labor. The exhaustion that usually accompanies labor in primiparæ is partly eliminated. They usually appear restful the following day, for instead of having passed the previous day