

THE TEACHING OF OBSTETRICS.

As this must ever form a most important portion of the professional duties of every general practitioner, it is of the utmost importance that every doctor before entering upon his life's work should receive a thorough training in this branch of the curriculum.

We give in another portion of this issue the report of the committee appointed by the American Obstetrical and Gynaecological Societies. It contains some interesting information. The committee was composed of gentlemen well calculated to deal with this subject.

INEBRIATE HOME NEEDED IN TORONTO.

Every large city has its due quota of drunkards. There must be found some fairly satisfactory way of dealing with these cases.

The present state of affairs in Toronto could not be much worse than they are. We have looked into their subject in a number of Canadian cities and find that the method of dealing with the inebriate is satisfactory.

Controller Spence of Toronto has reported on this matter to the city council. What he says is worth careful study by all the cities of Canada.

"That the committee recommends the appointing of a deputation to wait upon the Provincial Government and ask for such co-operation as will secure the establishment, maintenance and operation of a hospital for inebriates, and the commitment thereto of habitual drunkards; that an earnest appeal be made to the Government for the provision of sufficient and adequate asylum accommodation for all insane persons whose insanity demands public restraint and treatment. The holding of a conference with the representatives of charitable institutions now receiving grants from the city, with a view to ascertaining what provision could be made for the care of such persons as are now committed to jail on the charge of vagrancy, who are not deserving of imprisonment for some other reason.

"It would be difficult to devise a more irrational or ineffective method of dealing with inebriates than is the standard Police Court system of 'a dollar and costs or thirty days.' That treatment never benefited an offender to whom it was applied. Its failure to restrain or prevent drunkenness is sufficiently shown in the fact that the drunk and disorderly arrest in the City of Toronto have steadily increased from 3,493 in the year 1899, to 9,247 in the year 1909. During the criminal year ending 1909 there were 2,208 commitments to Toronto jail for the offence of drunkenness. The city paid for the doing of more harm than good to a