

I have here the pelvimeter figured by Dr. Williams, of Baltimore, in his book; I find it too light, and not as accurate or serviceable as the instrument devised by Dr. Little.

A. LAPHORN SMITH, M.D.—I see a great advantage in this instrument, for it will now be possible to predict almost surely whether we will have a tear or not. That is just the one thing I have been wanting for my method of putting in a stitch or two before the tear occurs. If the instrument can foretell this and the operator puts in a stitch, then he will find that the number of infected cases will be very small indeed.

SOME LABORATORY NOTES ON GASTRIC ACIDITY.

The paper of the evening was read by Prof. R. F. Ruttan.

C. B. KEENAN, M.D.—I have been greatly interested in Dr. Ruttan's remarks, and I am certain they will prove of great value. The analysis of stomach contents in the past done in the ordinary method, has often proved misleading as to the pathological condition there present, and Dr. Ruttan points out wherein the fallacy may have occurred. I believe in the light of this paper that the findings in analysis of stomach contents in the future will be of much greater aid in forming a correct diagnosis.

Henry S. Goodhall, calls attention to the intimate relation of pleurisy to pulmonary tuberculosis, which he supports by reference to modern statistics, among which are included those of Stony Wold Sanatorium. He considers first pleurisy as a complication of tuberculosis. This is frequent, and long treatment is indicated. The withdrawal of all the fluid contained in the pleural cavity is not beneficial when tuberculosis is present. The diagnosis of tuberculous pleurisy is established by the history and the finding of the bacilli in the pleuritic fluid, confirmed by animal inoculation. Differential blood counts are of little value. A very large percentage of serofibrinous pleurises may be demonstrated to be tuberculous in origin. Every case of pleurisy should be carefully examined and every effort made to ascertain whether it is tuberculous—*Medical Record*, June 27, 1908.