

PUERPERAL SEPSIS.

The method of treating puerperal sepsis at Bucharest is by systematic irrigation of the uterus whenever, after delivery (Draghiescu, *Annales de Gyn. et d'Obst.*, Paris), the patient has a chill, temperature of 38 C., and pulse 100. The uterus is then packed with iodoform gauze moistened with a five to ten per cent. solution of phenic acid. The gauze slightly distends the organ, and by direct contact cauterizes the surface and promotes uterine contractions. It is renewed twice in twenty-four hours. The patient recovers more rapidly with this than with any other method of treatment, and affections of the adnexa, etc., and phlebitis are much less frequent. The mortality has ranged from .05 to .22 per cent. of all accouchements since this treatment was instituted in 1895. There were three deaths, or .13 per cent., of 2047 deliveries in 1899.—*Jour. of Amer. Med. Asso.*

TREATMENT OF PUERPERAL ECLAMPSIA.

According to Porak (*Annales de Gyn. et d'Obst.*, Paris), eclampsia is an auto-intoxication of intestinal origin. He therefore treats it by copious flushing of the bowels, using 30 to 50 liters of tepid, 7 per 1,000 salt solution under weak pressure. This irrigation brings at last a discharge of pure bile, and then he desists. Infusion into the blood is also an important aid. He considers the convulsions of reflex origin, and consequently forbids all food or drinks by the stomach, and if obstetrical intervention is necessary, abolishes the reflexes by profound narcosis. Since he has been treating eclampsia on these principles he has had only five die out of forty-seven cases, and two of these deaths could not be attributed to the eclampsia.—*Jour. of Amer. Med. Asso.*

LEUCOCYTES IN ACUTE RHEUMATISM.

Achard and Loeper (*Comptes Rendus de la Société de Biol.*, December 7, 1900) have completed a study of the leucocytes count in acute rheumatic fever. In the fourteen cases studied, they constantly observed a leucocytosis reaching as high as 21,000 to the cubic millimeter; the increase was essentially polynuclear in type, rarely over eighty per cent. Toward the end of the acute period, as well as during convalescence, the eosinophiles were found rather high (thirteen per cent). Sometimes during the febrile period, myelocytes were present in two or three-per-cent. proportions. The joint fluid was examined in four cases and found to contain almost exclusively polymorphonuclear leucocytes.—*Med. News.*