

lesions are quite latent. Careful distinction must be made between a pathological lesion and a clinical disease. Simple atheroma may remain for a long time nothing more than an anatomical change. In cardio-sclerosis, on the other hand, the subjective symptoms predominate over the physical signs which may indeed be absent, as in mitral contraction of sclerotic origin. In mitral regurgitation of similar origin the patient may be considered "a mitral case" as far as his murmur goes, but he is really "an arterial or aortic case." From the outset the renal factor is of great importance in determining the retention of the toxic substances and the increase in the arterial tension. Renal insufficiency is an early and constant symptom in arterial cardiopathies even if there be no albuminuria, and this fact accounts for the importance of renal treatment to eliminate the toxins during the whole course of the disease. Clinically, cardio-sclerosis can take its beginnings in the kidney, the heart, or some other organ, but there is no such thing as arterio-sclerosis without both arterial and renal lesions. That at least is the best definition of the disease, and it allows of the differentiation of a number of disorders which have for long been wrongly regarded as always due to arterio-sclerosis, as, for instance, certain affections of the eyes, ears, brain (lacunar cerebral sclerosis, cerebral hemorrhages, etc.), and the senile changes in the heart. It may happen that cardiac lesions of rheumatic origin become complicated by arterio-sclerotic changes between the ages of 30 and 50 years and a fresh train of symptoms may ensue. Asthma and emphysema only lead to stoppage of the heart through the arterial lesions which occur with them, but asystole of true gastric origin is extremely rare. Discussing the treatment, Dr. Huchard said that the therapeutic indications were different in the four stages of the disorder, but dietetic regimen with measures directed to the renal efficiency are always the basis of sound treatment. In a disease which is above all things an intoxication, the abuse of drugs, especially of the iodides and digitalis, is to be carefully avoided, and also the abuse of so-called anti-sclerotic serums, high frequency currents, and climatic and certain mineral water "cures." Lastly, Dr. Huchard mentioned a form of arterio-sclerosis with arterial hypotension primarily of intestinal origin and associated with portal congestion.

**RAPID DILATATION OF THE CERVIX.** By Dr. G. Winter, Koenigsberg.

He maintained that the ideal method of dilating the cervix must be one which involved no danger of excessive bleeding, of