

room, and an initial dose of 0.00045 gm. or approximately  $1/135$  of a grain of scopolamine hydrobromide is injected intramuscularly. This is preceded by a hyperdermic injection of one-half grain of narcophin. The effects are now carefully observed with special reference to pulse, respiration, pupillary reaction, fetal heart sounds and frequency and intensity of uterine contractions. A second injection of  $1/400$  of a grain of scopolamine is given about one hour after the first one. About one-half an hour after this injection memory tests are brought into play. The patient is shown some object, such as a doll or watch and a short while later she is asked whether she remembers having seen the particular object in question, or she may be asked whether she remembers having received a hyperdermic injection. Any test of memory will do. The repetition of injections is now primarily gauged by the degree of amnesia present, this being the guiding point throughout the treatment. The interval between injections is approximately one to one and one-half hours. The average normal case requires from five to seven injections, although at times it may be necessary to give only two or three, or as many as twelve or fourteen.

At the completion of the first stage, with the presenting part on the perineum, one c.c. of pituitrin is often given to hasten delivery. In using pituitrin in these cases, especial attention should be paid to the fetal heart sounds, for there may be danger of producing asphyxia in a child which is already oligopnolic. As soon as the child is born, the cord is quickly ligated and severed and the infant is removed to another room. The mother is made comfortable and usually falls into a deep slumber, to awake two to four hours later often in complete ignorance of the fact that she has already given birth to her child.

Our experience with this form of treatment consists of a series of 300 consecutive cases in the obstetrical services of Jewish Maternity and Lebanon Hospitals. As previously stated, these cases were subdivided into three groups with the following results: (a) 231 cases, or 77+%, in which there was complete amnesia with varying degrees of analgesia; (b) 37 cases of 12+%, in which there was varying degrees of analgesia without amnesia; (c) 32 cases, or 11% in which the treatment failed to produce the desired effects.

#### TOTAL AVERAGE DOSAGE.

In primiparæ scopolamine hydrobromide  $1/50$  of a grain. In multiparæ  $1/66$  of a grain.