

of the pregnancy. After November 1 the patient enjoyed excellent health until she reached full term, May 8. In accordance with my custom during the last five years, of inducing labor at term or within two or three days after, labor was induced May 10, when a healthy child was born. At the time of writing (nearly nine months later) mother and child are both well.—*Journal A. M. A.*

Pharmacology of Agar-agar

An interesting article on this subject appears in *American Druggist*, 56, 291. After mentioning the history of the substance, its composition (chiefly the carbohydrate gelose), its use as a culture medium and in toilet preparations, the article proceeds to explain its modern uses in habitual constipation, quoting Gompertz's satisfactory results in administering the substance to patients in 15 gram doses morning and evening. The article closes with mention of the fact that the proprietaries Cascara-agar Jelly and Regulon are combinations of the substance with extract of cascara sagrada; that Laxigen consists of agar, sugar and phenolphthalein; and that Rhamnagar consists of agar and extract of buckthorn.—*Ex.*

The Use of Oil in Abdominal Surgery

Experimental and clinical evidence has lately been brought forward of the value of introducing a sterile oil into the peritoneal cavity both for the purpose of delaying absorption of the toxins of peritonitis and for the prevention of post-operative adhesions.

Wilkie (*Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics*, February, 1910), in his work has found sterile vaseline oil to be one of the best agents for the purpose, for unlike most oils it can be sterilized at a high temperature without decomposing and is absolutely uniritating.

With regard to post-operative adhesions, the following are the writer's conclusions, based on experimental evidence:

1. After aseptic abdominal operations without rough handling of viscera, adhesions are little likely to form.