

show lacerations of the perineum and cervix uteri (facile channels of infection in the puerperal woman). As secondary conditions are found intrapelvic (peritoneal) inflammations, and consequent abnormal locations, fixations and congestions of the uterus, tubes and ovaries.

7. The results of operations seem to show that removal of local sources of irritation increases the chances of recovery from the mental disease.

SANITATION AND HYGIENE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.—The Bureau of Hygiene and Sanitation of the World's Columbian Exposition has been organized to prepare a collective exhibit illustrative of the present condition of sanitary science. Starting from the standpoint that "the common health is the common wealth" and that hitherto sanitation and sanitary science have not received that amount of general public support which their importance demands, the Bureau will seek to set before the visitors to the Exposition such a representation of sanitary work and sanitary aid as will help to lift the general mind to a higher plane in its estimate of the work of sanitation. Not even the most exaggerative optimist would assert that the sanitary arrangements of our chief and best-cared for cities are perfect, while it is well known that those of smaller towns and villages are of the most reprehensible type. On the other hand the pessimist cannot deny that the last two decades have seen very great and very marked improvements in the theory of hygiene as a science and in its practice as an art; the "vantage ground" thus gained, it is to be hoped, will be but a new base from which a more general and complete advance all along the line may be made.

URINARY GRAVEL.—Dr. E. Golovine, a Russian physician, is convinced (*Med. Abstract*) from a number of observations he has made, that the prolonged use of a mixture of equal parts of calcined magnesia and prepared chalk gives the best results in gravel and nephritic colic. With this mixture, in doses of two teaspoonfuls three times a day with the meals, without any alteration in the diet, he has obtained the rapid suppression of the deposits of urates and oxalates in the urine; the disappearance of the neuralgia of the sciatic nerve, so frequently seen in these cases; and the paroxysms of nephritic colic, formerly common, no

longer appear. M. Golovine explains the favorable action obtained on the hypothesis that the chalk and magnesia, combining with the phosphoric acid, set at liberty a quantity of soda sufficient to neutralize the uric acid.

APPENDICITIS AND ITS TREATMENT.—Prof. A. Iverson, of Copenhagen (*Thesis*), relates two successful cases where the patients exhibited the well-known symptoms of perforation of the vermiform process, where the removal of the appendix vermiformis was performed. The appendix had a thickened and inflamed wall, was fixed to the environs by peritoneal adhesions, and contained muco-purulent fluid. The author recommends the removal of the vermiform process (1) when symptoms of inflammation of this organ recur several times, (2) when there are signs of distension of it from pus, and (3) in cases of intra-peritoneal abscess.

THE TREATMENT OF PLEURISY.—M. Trasbot contributes a very interesting paper (*L'Abeille Med.*) to the discussion at the French Academy of Medicine, treating the subject from the standpoint of the veterinarian. He concludes that: 1. The sero-fibrous pleurisy of animals has nothing in common with tuberculosis. 2. Frequently the relation between its development and chilling is indisputable. 3. It is impossible to liken the sero-fibrinous pleurisy of the horse to an eruptive fever, or to a cyclic disease. 4. Antiphlogistic medication and derivative applications surely exercise an advantageous action. 5. Thoracentesis can be done without danger to the horse, and constitutes a measure to which we may have recourse before the effusion gives rise to asphyxia.

RATIO OF PHYSICIANS TO POPULATION.—Dr. P. H. Millard, of Minn., in a paper recently read before the American Academy of Medicine (*Coll. and Clin. Rec.*), gave the following as the ratio of physicians to population in various parts of the world:—

Sweden.....	1 to 7,000
Italy	1 to 3,500
Germany	1 to 3,000
Austria-Hungary	1 to 2,400
France	1 to 2,000
United States	1 to 600