

caustics, but said that the method he advocated in his paper did not preclude the employment of chemical agents also. Dr. Reamy concluded with a most brilliant peroration in defence of the curability of cancer of the cervix if seen at all early. He regarded Williams of London as a great authority, but regretted much that that author did not recognize the vast and valuable work done by American surgeons in this field.

DR. E. C. DUDLEY of Chicago read a paper on *The Technique of Vaginal Hysterectomy*. The principal point the author dwelt upon was the controlling of hemorrhage by pressure forceps instead of by ligatures. After the peritoneum had been reached the opening was enlarged by inserting the forefinger of each hand and spreading them forcibly apart, so \wedge , until the broad ligaments were reached. The broad ligaments were also controlled by forceps, so also the ovaries if necessary. 'If in doubt, forceps can be fixed on the broad ligaments from behind also. He has had as many as twenty pairs of forceps hanging in the vagina at once, and did not find they at all interfered; spoke strongly against inverting the uterus, and said that he has by this method performed the operation in so short a time as twelve minutes. He closes the wound also by forceps, and his reasons for so doing are to prevent prolapse of intestine, and in this way give rise to peritonitis. A great value of the forceps, besides acting as hæmostatics, is that of ensuring good drainage. He wraps the handles in iodoform gauze, and does not use drainage of any other kind, the metal instruments, he contends, being the very best conductors of fluids. The forceps thus placed can be removed in twenty-four hours, but he prefers leaving them on for forty-eight. He does not advise vaginal tampons of any kind, as they interfere with drainage. He simply applies a vulvar dressing, which is frequently changed. He quoted twenty cases with two deaths (10 per cent.) When the tumor is very large he has an idea of doing laparotomy and fixing the forceps on the broad ligaments through the vagina, but guided by the fingers of the other hand passed through the abdominal opening into the pelvic cavity. He concluded by contending strongly in favor of the forceps superseding all other methods of hæmostasis.