

of the pelvic organs; nor to endeavor to attempt any solution of the problem of the co-relation of the physical with the psychic, but to give you a few deductions, which have been the product of several years of careful study of pelvic diseases as causative of abnormal mentality.

At the last meeting of this society, the able superintendent of our Provincial Hospital for the Insane gave us a masterly address upon the relation of general practitioners to the diagnosis and treatment of the insane, given from the standpoint of the specialist. My view-point is that of a general practitioner, and I shall deal with this matter as it has appeared to me in private practice.

It is but necessary to call your attention to the alarming increase of insanity upon this continent, to the ever-increasing burden that is thus entailed upon the State, and the shadow which this condition casts upon many of our best families, to arouse your interest in any measure, or measures, whose object is the amelioration, or curtailment, of this condition.

We have in this causation and treatment of insanity a problem second in importance only to that of the control of cancer and tuberculosis.

As an indication of the turning of the attention of the profession to this matter, many of the modern text-books upon gynecology contain a chapter upon this subject; and as an indication of the necessity of a careful examination of all cases presenting abnormality, I make the surprising statement that, of the 111 examinations which I have made of females with well-marked mental diseases, I found decided pathological conditions in 101 (90 per cent.). Several other investigators have found a similar percentage. I refer to Dr. Tyler, of Denver, who reports that less than 10 per cent. have normal pelvic organs. Dr. Hobbs, late of London Asylum, found 89 per cent. diseased. Reports from other asylums, where careful examinations were made, give about the same percentages.

Without enlarging upon this part of the subject, or going further into statistics and reports, all of which go to show that pelvic disease in the insane should receive appropriate treatment, as in the sane, and that mental unsoundness cannot be an excuse for the neglect of treatment of any physical lesion—matters upon which we all agree—I shall now proceed to make statements which we cannot be expected to accept unanimously. For the convenience of discussion, I shall state my deductions numeri-