

times occurs in the female. Some remove the ovaries from these women in order to produce a premature climacteric, in hopes that this will stop the nerve irritation, but this is not good treatment, as it is well known that women at the climacteric are especially liable to mental derangement. However, some women are peculiarly liable to a mild form of melancholia at the menstrual period and it may even assume a suicidal form. It may possibly be of service to operate upon these but the cases should be very carefully chosen.

Many aggravated cases of hysteria are accompanied by disease of the pelvic viscera in the female, this fact suggesting the removal of the diseased structures, but the large majority of these patients are not cured by the operation, as, if the pain leaves the pelvis, it is almost certain to appear in some other region.

He concluded by saying that "epilepsy truly depending upon normal uterine function or due to abnormal states of the sexual apparatus is rarely (I am tempted to say never) seen. In all my life I have met with but four reflex epileptics; none were from uterine, or ovarian, or tubal disease." He also considers that insanity may be aggravated, but is very rarely caused by the menstrual epoch alone.

In the discussion which followed the above paper, Dr. C. K. Mills said that pelvic disease or disturbance was sometimes the result of mental or nervous disorders, as where amenorrhœa accompanied melancholia or other insanity. Real epilepsy, hysteria or melancholia is never caused by pelvic disease; they are essentially affections of the nervous system but pelvic disease may serve as the exciting cause in those who are predisposed to them.

In hysterical patients, where local pelvic disease exists, operation or treatment may relieve the condition.

Dr. Wharton Sinkler puts in a good word for the much abused gynæcologist. He says that when a woman is affected with some nervous disorder, her friends at once think that she must have some pelvic disease and forthwith conduct her to a gynæcologist, but these specialists now usually refuse to treat these cases.

Krämer collected the reports of 300 cases of pelvic operations for neuroses and psychoses, with the results that benefit followed in 200, while the remainder were either no better or else had their previous condition aggravated.

Hobbs, of London, Ont., has written a most interesting paper upon gynæcological operations upon the insane. He says that disturbances of the functional integrity of the nerve centres are often caused by disease in distant organs, either reflexly or sympathetically, and that derangements of the highly complex cycle of organs connected with