

In the treatment of what is professionally termed diseases of women, gynecologists, like other specialists, differ as to methods. Many gynecological procedures, adopted as standards by the majority of physicians, are useless or inapplicable when applied to the insane. The employment of ovarian or uterine medication, the application of the Apostoli method for the reduction of fibroid tumors and the introduction of pessaries for displaced uteri and adnexa, could not be applied with even a fair modicum of success. The restlessness, meddlesomeness, and lack of control, inherent in the insane, would make medication a task laborious to the operator and likely to arouse an antagonism in the patient because of the necessity of its frequent repetition. The questionable potency of the electrical or Apostoli treatment and the difficulty of its manipulation prevented its adoption where apparently indicated.

The different mechanical devices or pessaries for the support of corrected displacements of the uterus were given a fair trial but had to be abandoned. These patients would not tolerate their presence in the *via naturalis* and would remove them soon after they were introduced. These were some of the difficulties that rendered unavailing recognized but tedious methods which in the main are only palliative even under the most favorable conditions.

The only radical treatment for the insane, as for the sane, with gross gynecic lesions, we believed to be that afforded by the resources of recent surgical science. Thorough preparation of surgical dressings, scrupulous attention in the observance of aseptic details, and a familiar knowledge of the technique involved in the various operations, now renders the most critical surgical operations comparatively free from hazard to the patient's life.

Since our resource to surgical aid, three and a half years ago, one hundred and ten women have undergone operative treatment, representing one hundred and ninety-six distinct operations. These embraced eighty-three curettages, thirty-eight trachelorrhaphies and amputations of the cervix, twenty-six operations for suspension of the uterus, twelve ovariectomies, seventeen hysterectomies, two laparotomies for tubercular peritonitis, one celotomy for removal of a broad ligament hematoma, and seventeen perineorrhaphies.

These operations were done primarily and specifically for the removal of physical disease and the promotion of bodily comfort. The finale of medical, dietetic, and hygienic measures in the general management of lunatics by all alienists is to bring the physique to the highest attainable point. If it is shown that surgical art can aid medical science in promoting this desideratum even among the