children, being found in only four cases of this series. Of these two died of symptoms typical of interstitial nephritis. The authors regard the blood urea as a very helpful prognostic test in the nephritis of childhood. The results of the phenolsulphonaphthalein test are usually in accord with the clinical findings and the blood urea. The carbon dioxid combining power of the blood is a very reliable method of ascertaining the severity of the acidosis in the diarrheal acidosis.

OBSTETRICS

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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Frequency of Shoulder Presentation in Different Countries.—IPPOLITO (*Gazzetta degli Ospedali e dalle Cliniche*, Milan, March 2, 1919) has collected statistics from six different countries showing that the proportion of shoulder presentation ranges from 0.35 per cent. in America, 0.36 in England, 0.58 per cent. in Germany, 0.66 in France, 0.71 in Austria. On the other hand Italy has an average of 1.40 per cent. shoulder presentations. In twenty years' practice in Sicily in 10,000 deliveries Ippolito encountered shoulder presentation in 0.2 per cent. Comparing the various races it is observed that shoulder presentation becomes less frequent the taller the mothers. While least common among Anglo-Saxons, it occurs most frequent among the Slavic races of Austria. However, the distance between the lower margin of the xiphoid appendage and the upper margin of the symphysis pubis is remarkably constant in women, irrespective of their height. Sicilian women are short but the shortness is in the legs, the length of the trunk and the distance between the xiphoid cartilage and the pubes are rather above than below the average. The writer insists then that the xiphopubic measurement is a very important measurement in obstetric practice. He believes that women are useful in preventing abuses among the poor working women in factories, improperly clad and wearing corsets.

The Transmission of Rabies to the Fetus.—REMLINGER (*Bull. de la Acad. de méd.*, April 8, 1919) has made experiments which confirm Konradi's results. When rabies is inoculated into animals they may not appear out of health for from one to three months, but the young born during this time show rabies and may have died before the mother contracts the disease. In Remlinger's experience one animal developed rabies one hundred and twenty-two days after the inoculation. This was sixty-eight days after the birth of the young and thirty-eight days after the death of the last one of the young. In some cases a year elapsed before the mother died from rabies contracted from the fetus. Young animals may be apparently healthy and yet if infected in the uterus may develop rabies at any time without further contact. It has