beats slower than normal. In the total series a fall of ten or more beats was observed in 20.5 per cent., in 31.7 per cent. of the multiparæ, but in 12.7 per cent. of the primiparous women. The more rapid the pulse has been during pregnancy, the more apt is it to be slower in the puerperal period. While the slower the pulse during gestation, the more apt is it to increase in rate after the birth of the child. In the majority of cases the pulse does not rise when the patient leaves her bed, about the eighth day.

The Relation of the Thyroid Gland to the Female Generative Organs.—GOODALL and CONN (*Surg., Gyn., and Obstet.*, May, 1911) report cases illustrating this subject, demonstrating that a very intimate relationship exists between the female generative organs and the thyroid glands, this relationship being especially close between the thyroid and the ovaries. The uterus has no influence upon thyroid activity, except as it may affect the action of the ovaries. The function of the thyroid gland is, in a measure, under the control of ovarian activity, and when this is in excess, exophthalmic goitre often develops. When ovarian activity is diminished or absent, myxedema may result. Puberty, menstruation, pregnancy, lactation, and menopause all have a profound influence upon thyroid secretion. Thyroid and ovarian secretions neutralize each other, and the interstitial cells of the ovary are the important factors in producing this result.

The Beginning of Mind in the Newborn.—PETERSON (*Bull. Lying-in Hosp. of N. Y.*, December, 1910) reports the results of investigations made in the New York Lying-in Hospital to determine the degree of mentality present in the newborn infant. From these studies he concludes that sensibility to light is present in most infants at birth, even when premature. The optic nerve is ready to receive impressions before birth. The same is true of hearing, as many normal children react to sound on the first day of life, and also a considerable number of those prematurely born. Children react to stimulation of the gustatory nerve at birth, and often before the period of normal gestation. This is also true of the olfactory nerve. There is every reason to believe that cutaneous sensibility, muscular sense, sense of motion, and of position are present, not only at birth, but for some time before. Thirst hunger is experienced on the first day, although hunger for food is not usually apparent until the first or second day. There are good reasons for believing that a newborn child comes into the world with a small store of experiences and appreciated feelings and shadowy consciousness. The child's body transmits light readily and must also transmit sound, and the child must have heard *in utero* the sound of the mother's body and also its own heart beat. The gustatory nerve is stimulated by swallowing amniotic fluid. Touch and muscular sense must be developed by fetal movements, which occur as early as the sixteenth week of pregnancy, and may be so violent as to give pain to the mother. Muscular activity and frequent contact of the fetal body with the uterine walls must develop a sense of equilibrium and relation to space. The material basis of consciousness is prepared long before birth. There is no perceptible difference in the reaction of colored and white or between twins.