

operation are due to disease of the adnexa or endometrium. The writer always opens the uterus and treats the diseased mucous membrane.

**Primary Cancer of the Clitoris.**—JACOBY (*Monatsschrift für Geb. u. Gyn.*, 1904, No. 19) has collected 40 authentic cases, 25 others being doubtful, and adds 2 which came under his own observation. In the first case the patient being fifty-six years of age, recurrence took place in the inguinal glands two years after ablation of the clitoris; in the second there was no trace of disease two years after operation.

## OTOLOGY.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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**Examinations of the Ears of Railway Employees.**—SACHS (*Archiv f. Ohrenheilkunde*, Band lxx., Heft 1 and 2) presents statistics obtained from the examination of the ears of 376 trainmen on the Prussian State Railroads. He divides these railroad employes into two classes. The first class includes conductors, baggagemasters, guards, and brakemen, and the second class the locomotive firemen and engineers. Of the first class 155 were examined; of the second 221.

Of 155 of the first class, 99, or about 60 per cent., had normal hearing; 42, about 32 per cent., had slight ear affections, which could have no effect on the efficiency of their service, and only 14, or about 8 per cent., had the hearing greatly decreased as the result of middle-ear or labyrinth affections. This small percentage is what would be expected among employes in other occupations, and Sachs therefore concludes that the employment on trains (not including that of locomotive firemen and engineers) does not materially affect the hearing.

The conclusions arrived at from the examination of employes of the second class, namely, firemen and engineers on the locomotives, were, however, quite different; 115 firemen and 106 engineers were examined. On the railroads, the employes of which Sachs examined, an apprenticeship in the machine shops of several years is required of the firemen on the locomotives. Therefore, in considering the effect of occupations on the hearing in the case of the firemen, it is probable that the exposure to loud noises, in enclosed spaces during this apprenticeship, had a deleterious effect. Of the 115 firemen, 73, or about 60 per cent., had normal hearing with normal condition of the ears objectively; 30, or about 25 per cent., had a slight diminution of the hearing resulting from labyrinth or from middle-ear affections, and only 12, or about 10 per cent., had a considerable diminution in the hearing. (The maximum hearing distance in this 10 per cent. being 1.5 metres for the whispered voice.)