

at puberty as well as after the climacteric. Contrary to cancer, the favorite site of sarcoma is in the body of the uterus, the latter being affected in 325 out of 393 cases in which the location of the neoplasm was stated. Metastases are most common in the lungs, next in the liver and intestines, the bloodvessels (rarely the lymph-vessels) being the channels of infection.

Changes of the Ovaries in Vesicular Mole.—WALLART (*Zeitschrift f. Geb. u. Gyn.*, Band lvi, Heft 3) from studies of the ovaries in connection with vesicular mole and chorion epithelioma arrives at the conclusion that in these conditions, as well as in normal pregnancy, the cells of these interna often undergo an epithelioid transformation, with accompanying cystic degeneration of the follicles, but that there is no accompanying change peculiar to the malignant condition of the uterus.

The Dangers of Atmokaussis and Zestokaussis.—PINCUS (*Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 13, 1906) affirms that if the operation is properly performed there is no more reason why it should be followed by stenosis, atresia, or obliteration of the uterine cavity than should a simple curettement.

He repeats the cautions so often given that an exact diagnosis must first be made and that the uterine cavity must be entirely empty, even of mucus and blood-clots. Atmokaussis should not follow curettement in women who are still in the childbearing period. Malignant disease must always be excluded. The writer still adheres to his original belief that total extirpation of the uterus should never be performed for hemorrhage alone until atmokaussis has been tried.

Bloodvessels of the Uterus.—KEIFFER (*Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 18, 1906) from careful anatomical studies arrives at the following conclusions: The branches which are given off from the uterine artery pursue a spiral course through the parenchyma of the uterus, each having a connective-tissue covering derived from that of the uterus. The arterioles gradually lose their three layers until the smallest are in direct contact with the uterine muscle and connective tissue. The latter form a dense net-work, the terminal vessels not presenting a visible lumen unless they are injected. In the gravid and inflamed uterus the net-work of vessels present the appearance of ampullæ.

The veins have contractile coats and are in direct contact with the parenchyma. Keiffer concludes that the uterus is a true erectile organ, subject to marked increase in size under the influence of nervous and vasomotor influences.

Defect of Bladder and Urethra.—MACKENRODT (*Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 21, 1906) reports the case of a young girl with hypospadias of the urethra and neck of the bladder, who had submitted to several unsuccessful operations. The reporter cured the patient by adopting a different plan from the previous operators, suturing the neck of the bladder directly instead of utilizing flaps from the bladder, it being his observation that in such cases a rudimentary sphincter vesicæ can nearly always be found.

In a second case the urethra and neck of the bladder sloughed away

in consequence of some lesions attending a difficult delivery. In this case also he was able to dissect out from a mass of cicatricial tissues the ends of the vesical sphincter and to unite them, afterward making a new urethra by a plastic operation, the result being entirely satisfactory. He lays stress upon the fact that however perfect may be the anatomical result after repair of the neck of the bladder by a plastic operation the innervation will be faulty unless the natural sphincter is restored.

Degeneration of Uterine Fibroids.—WINTER (*Zeitschrift f. Geb. u. Gyn.*, Band lvii) believes that sarcomatous degeneration occurs in 4 per cent. of all cases of fibromyoma and in 9 per cent. of the submucous variety. Seventeen cases of necrosis occurred under his own observation, hence this must be regarded as a comparatively common form of degeneration, which should be suspected, especially when persistent hemorrhages, contractive pains, and symptoms of autoinfection follow abortion or labor at term.

Cystic degeneration the writer believes to be due to defective nourishment of the neoplasm, especially after the menopause, and is indicated clinically by profuse hemorrhages, with local and general disturbances.

Paralysis after Gynecological Operations.—GLOCKNER (*Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 21, 1906) reported at a meeting of the Leipzig Obstetrical Society the case of a patient, aged thirty-two years, who in the eighteenth day after normal convalescence from hysterectomy developed paresis of the lower limbs without loss of sensation. Since hysteria and a central lesion could be excluded the diagnosis of neuritis was made, although the reporter was unable to explain its origin or to find any records of a similar case.

Prof. Windscheid, to whom the patient had been referred for diagnosis and treatment, while he had no doubt that the case was one of neuritis, was equally unable to present a satisfactory explanation. He suggested as possible etiological factors the position of the patient during operation, injury to nerves, or anemia or toxemia.

Castration in Cancer of the Breast.—ROUBAND (Thèse de Lyon; Abstract in *Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 22, 1906) has collected fifty-one cases of inoperable cancer of the breast in which both ovaries were removed. In twenty-three the neoplasm either disappeared completely or diminished in size, but in only three was the cure permanent. In twenty-eight the result was entirely negative.

Helmitol in Postoperative Cystitis.—WITTHAUER (*Zentralblatt f. Gynäkologie*, No. 23, 1906) in view of the good results obtained in the treatment of cystitis (especially the postoperative type) with helmitol was led to administer it as a prophylactic whenever the use of the catheter was necessary. Fifteen grains are given twice daily, but the bladder is also irrigated with boric acid solution after each catheterization. 26 cases are reported in which the patient was catheterized from three to twelve days after operation, in only one of which did cystitis develop (A weak point in this report is the fact that irrigating the bladder was employed in addition to the use of helmitol.—H. C. C.)