

per urethram often effects a cure, alone or followed by local applications, and is a simple operation requiring no special armamentarium.

OBSERVATIONS ON INTRALIGAMENTOUS OVARIAN CYSTS.

BRIGIDI (*Ann. d'Obst. e Gynec.*, 1896, No. 3) concludes a clinical report on this subject as follows: women with intraligamentous cysts are apt to be sterile, because of the frequency with which both ovaries are found in an abnormal position. Under these circumstances both cysts may be of considerable size, or one may be small. Occasionally the opposite ovary is either absent or rudimentary. If the woman has borne children, pregnancy must have occurred before the ectopic ovary became cystic. When there exist supernumerary ovaries, or aberrant portions of ovarian tissue between the broad ligaments, an intraligamentous cyst and one occupying the ordinary position may be found on the same side.

PSYCHOSES FOLLOWING OPERATIONS.

JACOBS (*La Policlinique*, 1896, No. 4) believes that mental derangements which appear immediately after operation permit a more favorable prognosis than those which develop after a considerable lapse of time. He cites several illustrative cases, viz.:

CASE I.—Acute mania appearing three days after curettage and perineorrhaphy. It disappeared slowly but completely.

CASE II.—Melancholia in a woman, aged thirty-four years, developing six months after vaginal hysterectomy; death occurred four months later.

CASE III.—Erotic mania of a violent type; it appeared the day following vaginal hysterectomy, persisted eight days, and then entirely disappeared.

CASE IV.—Mania began on the second day after vaginal castration, and terminated fatally.

CASE V.—Melancholia developed three weeks after curettage, with insomnia, aphasia, paresis, and death.

OVARIAN TISSUE IN THE TREATMENT OF CLIMACTERIC DISTURBANCES.

MOND (*Münchener med. Wochenschrift*, 1896, No. 36) reports a number of cases of reflex nervous disturbances following the natural and artificial menopause, in which ovarian tissue was administered with benefit. Ten tablets (each containing a grain and a half of dried ovarian tissue) were given daily. After the second or third day it was noted that the attacks of flushing, perspiration, and mental depression were less marked. After ten or twelve days, or when about one hundred tablets (corresponding to one hundred and eighty grains of ovarian tissue) had been administered, the nervous disturbances were reduced to the minimum. Patients at the normal climacteric responded most promptly to treatment, their symptoms being decidedly relieved as early as the sixth day.

The writer admits that a permanent cure cannot be expected in case the reflex phenomena are dependent upon atrophy or removal of the ovaries, but their severity may be mitigated and the period of disturbance shortened. Large doses should be given for the first two weeks, and then smaller doses

continued for a considerable period, to be increased if the climacteric troubles reappear.

In conclusion, he emphasizes the importance of preserving a portion of ovarian tissue whenever this is possible in operations upon the adnexa, in order to preserve the function of menstruation. This applies, however, to cases in which the uterus is preserved, since Glævecke observed, in fourteen cases in which the tubes and ovaries were spared when the uterus was removed, the same disturbances as after castration. The ovaries in these cases usually become atrophied in consequence of their diminished vascular supply.

PÆDIATRICS.

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FORMIC ALDEHYD IN THE TREATMENT OF RINGWORM OF THE SCALP.

ALFRED SALTER (*British Medical Journal*, September 12, 1896, p. 650) suggests the employment of this remedy as a topical application in the treatment of ringworm of the scalp. Experimentally, he has found that pure cultures of both trichophyton megalosporon and microsporon are effectually killed by a short exposure merely to the vapor; twenty minutes usually sufficed to destroy the microsporon, though a rather longer time was necessary for the megalosporon, the difference depending upon the fact that the former species does not spore upon artificial media. The envelopment of the fungus by either sebum or keratin offers no pronounced obstacle to the permeation of the infiltrated hair by this drug.

Forty cases of ringworm were treated, the majority with Schering's formalin in full 40 per cent. strength, though in the later cases formaldehyd of English manufacture was used. The fluid was vigorously rubbed in with a large brush or mop for ten minutes, the hair having been shaved round the margin of the patches. This application was repeated every other day on four occasions, and then entirely discontinued. In some patients the head was painted every day for four successive days. Of the forty cases only five required repainting from non-eradication of the disease, and in these the fault lay not with the remedy, but in the fact that owing to the struggles of the child no proper application could be made. The ages of the children treated varied from four to twelve years, and the extent of the disease varied from a small, strictly localized patch to areas which were practically co-extensive with the whole scalp. Microscopical examination was always made