

Retro-uterine Hæmatocele.—LEWINSOHN (Inaugural Dissertation; Abstract in *Zentralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1903, No. 8) combats the prevailing view that hæmatocele is always due to ectopic gestation. The hemorrhagic peritonitis of Virchow is a well-known cause. Of eleven cases in Winckel's clinic, only four were due to ectopic. Winckel holds that hæmatocele is found in 0.5 per cent. of all gynecological cases, Olshausen in 4 per cent. The former strongly opposes surgical intervention, and has never lost a case in which expectant treatment was followed.

Menstrual Psychoses—KRAFFT-EBING (Abstract of Monograph in *Zentralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1903, No. 8) distinguishes several varieties of psychical disturbances attending menstruation, viz.:

1. Psychical manifestations accompanying the first appearance of menstruation. There may be from two to ten or twelve attacks of the melancholic or maniacal type, and the prognosis is generally good as soon as the menses become regularly established.

2. Psychoses attending ovulation. These are noted in neurotic individuals, usually as the result of a nervous shock, and appear as a severe but transient mental confusion, which is apt to recur each month, even in cases of amenorrhœa. These disturbances cease during pregnancy and after the menopause. An hereditary tendency is noted in most cases, and the attack may simulate violent mania or melancholia. They last from five to fourteen days or more. Suicidal impulses are sometimes present. The writer recommends sedatives, hypnotics, baths, and ice-packs, while in the intervals the mental and physical habits are regulated. The prognosis is good, except in cases in which mental degeneration is present. Castration may be considered as a last resort.

3. Cyclic menstrual psychoses are coincident with the menstrual wave, and appear in the form of premenstrual attacks of maniacal excitement or actual insanity, which increase in severity until the height of the wave, changing to depression and melancholia with its subsidence. This type is of considerable medico-legal importance, since the subject may entertain violent feelings against society, leading to criminal acts, such as theft, arson, or even murder. Hence, the writer advises that in the case of female criminals careful attention should be directed to the fact if the crime was committed at the time of menstruation, and if she had been habitually subject to mental disturbances at this period.

Calcification of the Ovary.—MILANDER (*Zentralblatt für Gynäkologie*, 1903, No. 8) reviews the literature of the subject, and adds a case to the fifteen already reported. His specimen contained several calcified corpora lutea. The ovary had become entirely separated from its attachment to the uterus (migrant), and was found free in Douglas' pouch without any adhesions.

The writer infers that the deposit of lime-salts was due to disturbance of nutrition of the ovary, referable to pressure of a tumor on the opposite side, its migration being secondary.

[The writer can add a second case of calcification of the ovary to the one previously described by Williams.—H. C. C.]