

prognosis. It depends, in general, on the distribution and intensity of the infection. However, the disease seems somewhat more fatal when it occurs near the beginning or end of pregnancy.

The treatment does not differ from that usually employed. The authors do not advocate the termination of pregnancy because of the existence of the disease.

JOHN W. HARRIS.

Banister and Sophianopoulos: A Case of Encephalitis Lethargica Complicating Pregnancy, *The Lancet*, London, 1921, cc, I, 481.

The case reported was a primipara, 31 years of age, who developed signs and symptoms of encephalitis lethargica when practically at term. Labor was induced because (1) the patient's condition was becoming worse, (2) because the baby was alive, and (3) because it was hoped that the removal of the fetus might have a beneficial influence on the patient's condition.

Following delivery the patient improved, but only temporarily, fatal termination resulted five days after delivery. The question, as to the advisability of terminating pregnancy in these cases as an aid in treatment of the disease, is raised by the writers.

NORMAN F. MILLER.

Fino and Fabini: Epidemic Encephalitis and Pregnancy, *Gazzete d'Ospidale*, 1921, xlii, 402.

The two patients were in the eighth month of pregnancy, and in both the course of the disease was progressive, with a grave aspect in the first case. Interruption of pregnancy by introduction of a sound had an excellent effect in both cases. The delivery of the living and healthy fetuses was easy, and there were no microscopic lesions of the placenta. The poisons circulating in the body of the mother may have caused uterine contractions due to the stimulus exercised upon the motor nerve centers of the uterus, which are localized in the spinal medulla, for the delivery took place several hours after the introduction of the sound.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE.

Kirstein: Smallpox Vaccination in Women During Pregnancy and the Puerperium and Its Effect on the Newborn. *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift*, 1921, xlvii, 328.

Agreeing with the results of previous investigators, Kirstein, from extensive experience in vaccination of the newborn, finds that even repeated vaccination of the mother at any stage of pregnancy, does not confer immunity upon the newborn child. He found that in almost all cases pustules were produced on the children that were vaccinated from one to eight days postpartum. He attributes failures to error in technic. He also found that the full term babies stand vaccination quite well, but he lost one premature infant, weighing 1870 gm., as the direct result of vaccination.

R. E. WOBUS.

Morawetz: Smallpox in the Newborn. *Wiener klinische Wochenschrift*, 1921, xxxiv, 129.

There are two ways to decide whether and in what way the newborn is susceptible to infection with smallpox: one by its reaction to vaccination, the other by observing the results of exposure of infants to smallpox.