the administration of suitable doses
of ganglion-blocking drugs such as
hexamethonium (Paton, 1952); the
state produced is somewhat similar to
that after the spinal blockade of pre-
ganglionic fibres, in that the blood vol-
ume is not reduced. . . . A combination of
the hypotensive and cooling tech-
niques has many possibilities in facili-
tating and extending surgical pro-
cedures, particularly perhaps those
employed in cardiac surgery."

A. A.

SMITH, GORDON: Trichlorethylene (Tri-
lene) Analgesia for Obstetrics and
Minor Surgery in General Practice.
North Carolina M. J. 13: 621–624
(Nov.) 1952.

"This discussion will be limited to
what I consider the most satisfactory
analgesic agent for use in obstetrics
and minor surgery—trichloroethylene
or Trilene—with particular emphasis
on the value of this agent to the general
practitioner. . . . In a preliminary re-
port published in G. P., April, 1952,
I listed the following advantages,
which after 62 additional cases, I find
no cause to change: (1) It is safe to
use in minor pediatric surgery; (2) it
has a potent analgesic and amnestic ef-
fect, given alone or in combination
with Demerol and/or scopolamine; (3)
its odor is not unpleasant; (4) induc-
tion is rapid and awakening rapid and
lucid; (5) side effects such as rest-
lessness, nausea, vomiting, and head-
ache are minimal; (6) it can be em-
ployed for long periods of time without
endangering mother or child, or af-
fected the uterus; (7) the incidence of
hemorrhage and other obstetrics com-
pliation is not increased; (8) labor is not prolonged; (9) admin-
istration is simple and easy; (10 it boosts
the morale of the parturient woman;
(11) it does not depress fetal respi-
ration; (12) it can be used safely even
in the absence of a doctor."

A. A.

EMERY, F. E.; GOSSETT, C. E.; YOUNG,
W. C., AND DODGE, EVA: Effects of
Acetyl-Choline on Lactation in
Guinea Pigs, Rats and Humans.
495, 1952.

"The possibility that milk secretion
may be modified by acetyl-choline led
us to undertake experiments on the
mammary glands, pregnancy and la-
tation in animals in which the amount
of acetyl-choline was increased by in-
jecting prostigmin. We have ap-
proached this problem in two ways:
(a) by giving estrogens in constant
amounts per week followed by pro-
stigmin, and (b) by injections of pro-
stigmin alone. . . . Experiments were
conducted [in guinea pigs and] in
breeding rats. . . . We have continued
these studies in a series of 18 women
in the last two weeks of pregnancy.
. . . From these studies it is evident
that acetyl-choline induced by pro-
stigmin has no noticeable effect on
lactation in guinea pigs, rats and hu-
mans. The mammary glands de-
veloped and milk secretion occurred in
advanced pregnancy even though pro-
stigmin was being given. Growth of
the young was not affected. Acetyl-
choline appears to be of no significant
value in lactation."

A. A.

CLEMENT, F. W., AND SELDIN, H. M.: Use of Trichloroethylene and Thi-
amylal Sodium as Adjuncts to Other
Anesthetics in Oral Surgery. J.

"The use of an adjunct with nitrous
oxide-oxygen for the production of
anesthesia in dental operations is wide-
spread. . . . Its use simplifies the ad-
ministration of an anesthetic to young
children and to debilitated individuals.
. . . Thiamylal sodium and trichloro-
ethylene are excellent adjuncts for use
with nitrous oxide-oxygen in the den-
tal office."

A. A.