Sir,—I was interested to read the paper by Dr. C. A. G. Armstrong on "A Method of Anaesthesia for Caesarean Section" (Brit. J. Anaesth. (1961), 33, 408). During the evolution of his present technique, one of the chief aims has been to reduce the incidence of vomiting or regurgitation of stomach contents by the mother. May I suggest one further modification which may help in this respect? Before induction of anaesthesia the patient should be allowed to breathe 100 per cent oxygen for some 3 minutes. This will obviate the need for manual inflation of the lungs during the period between induction and intubation of the trachea. Inflation of the lungs via a facepiece in the presence of a full stomach is one of the causes of reflux emptying of stomach and oesophagus (Wylie and Churchill-Davidson, 1960).

J. G. Francis
Romford, Essex

REFERENCE