

in her action in this matter, and see with satisfaction that her committee have upheld her wise decision. While no doubt they thoroughly appreciate the efforts made to bring funds to their institution by the efforts of the committee of the Charity Cricket Matches, the contribution from this source may be too dearly purchased if it is bought at the price of the discussion of the relative good looks of their nurses by the frequenters of the cricket field, a result which would surely follow the appearance of the nurses as public saleswomen. Then again, "*facile est descensus Averni*"; and can we not imagine that the services of the nurses would be speedily requisitioned in the manufacture of "cocktails" and other delights delectable for the solace of thirsty souls in the refreshment tent! We feel sure that the good sense of the nurses themselves would lead the great majority of them to disapprove of their services being utilized in so unbecoming and unprofessional a manner.

SUPPRESSED.

SOME of the members of the British Medical Association have taken strong exception to the attitude which they assert was adopted by the *British Medical Journal* upon the occasion of the recent election of a candidate for the General Medical Council to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Dr. Rentoul. It is said that the Reference Committee of the *British Medical Journal* supported the claims of Sir Walter Foster, and inserted letters in support of his candidature, while it printed, in small type, the account of a meeting of Mr. Victor Horsley's supporters, and suppressed letters from his adherents. The conspicuous ability of both these gentlemen to serve on the General Medical Council is beyond all question, and it is not with this that we are concerned; but Dr. Woodcock, seconded by Dr. Beverley, objected to the Reference Committee of the official Journal of the Association using the Journal officially in furtherance of the interests of a particular candidate without consulting the Council of the Association. The members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, who resent their Journal being manipulated in a similar manner, will feel sympathy with Dr. Woodcock, the President of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch, in his efforts to obtain fair-play. One thing, however, is

certain, that the section of the Nurses' Association which desires, and will have, at any cost, justice and fair play, will never submit to a gagged Journal.

The Nursing of Maternity Cases.

By MARGARET BREAY,

Late Superintendent St. John's Maternity Home.

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HÆMORRHAGE.

ONE of the most alarming complications which may occur before, during, or after, labour is hæmorrhage, and it is the duty of an obstetric nurse to know how to act, should hæmorrhage occur, until medical assistance arrives. Hæmorrhage may be divided into two main classes—*ante-partum*, and *post-partum*. *Ante-partum*, as its name implies, is that which occurs before delivery, and is subdivided into *accidental* and *unavoidable*. *Post-partum*, strictly speaking, is hæmorrhage which occurs after the expulsion of the placenta, but any hæmorrhage after the birth of the child has taken place is frequently included under this heading.

ANTE-PARTUM HÆMORRHAGE.

ACCIDENTAL.

Hæmorrhage in the lying-in woman is so called when it occurs before delivery when the placenta is normally situated, that is to say, when it is attached to the fundus of the uterus. It is so-called because it may occur once, and need not of necessity occur again during pregnancy or delivery. The cause is the partial detachment of the placenta from the placental site, and the greater the detachment the greater the hæmorrhage. A medical practitioner must at once be sent for should accidental hæmorrhage occur, meanwhile the obstetric nurse must deal with the emergency until assistance arrives. The usual treatment taught by the text-books is to "rupture the membranes and bring on labour." The first part of this instruction is easy enough to carry out if the os uteri is at all dilated, but the second is quite beyond the power of the obstetric nurse to accomplish. In an ordinary labour it is a recognized fact that the premature rupture of the membranes, before the full dilatation of the os, is one of the causes of

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