

valescence from "white leg," but there are three points of great interest to watch for, and no one more than an intelligent Nurse has better opportunities for observing the symptoms that mark them; and I need scarcely remind you to keep your *thoughts* on these and other occasions (as far as your patient is concerned) to *yourself*. First, be on the look out for *lameness*. You may observe the patient cannot raise the foot of the affected limb, and drags the leg after as she walks; this may be due to local nerve injury, and is often accompanied by neuralgic pains in the hip or the inner part of the thigh, or the calf—"shifting pains." Many pregnant women are liable to these pains, and when they occur in the breast, or the side, they are called "tick." In this case the lesion disables temporarily the leg, and we must have other aids to locomotion than those we have described, and a crutch must be obtained. This sounds sadly, but it is only common sense, and for my part I recommend a crutch in these cases as one of our best aids to recovery, lameness or no lameness, for the pressure of the body upon the leg should be eased by this simple surgical contrivance. What kind of crutch? Speaking from personal as well as professional experience, I should recommend a "bow" crutch, and to get real comfort out of it, it should be made to *fit* as much as a shoe; hence the lady must be measured for it. The two points are the *length* of the crutch and the *position* of the handle upon which her hand rests, and which must be adapted to the length of the arm; the top of the crutch should fit *under the arm*, and be well stuffed to avoid chafing. The crutch must be long enough to raise the foot a few inches from the ground.

Now, being thus provided with a third leg (?), the patient has to learn how to use this novel *addendum*. Shall we give her a crutch lesson on paper? Remember that a crutch is only a passive support intended to take the weight of the body off an injured leg or foot, and really an idler, and has to be made to work. Standing upright, the crutch is put under the patient's left arm, and must be placed *in advance* of the left foot; leaning on the stick in the right hand, she makes a move forward with her right leg, and with a sort of swinging motion of her left leg supported by the crutch, which is soon acquired if you know how to begin, she again brings it in advance of the left foot and so on.

(To be continued.)

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NURSING ECHOES.

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I AM asked to remind my readers that the first meeting of the third Session of the British Nurses' Association takes place to-morrow, Friday, at 8 p.m., at 20, Hanover Square, W. The chair will be taken by Sir James Crichton Browne, and a paper on "Amateur Nursing" will be read by Mr. Andrew Clark, F.R.C.S., the well-known Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. I have just received my copy of the Second Annual Report, which it is needless to say is as encouraging as it is interesting. I see that the *Conversazione* is as usual to take place on the first Friday of December, and at the Princes' Hall again, where the great and highly successful gathering was held last year.



THE programme of the Session's work of the B.N.A. is, as heretofore, excellent, and large meetings may safely be foretold. I hope, however, that the Nursing members will join more freely in the discussions this year than they have hitherto done. The chief workers in the Association must have an enormous amount of work to do in organizing and carrying on the many schemes which have now been commenced. It is rather hard upon them that so much of the discussion at the meetings has perforce to be undertaken by them also. I am glad, however, to learn that a large number of leading medical men are now joining the Association, in response to the invitation of the Committee, so that, doubtless, they will to some extent aid the meetings in this matter.

It is suggested by the Committee that members should do something individually to make the *Conversazione* a success, by disposing of paying tickets amongst their friends. I hear that on the two former occasions the entire responsibility of this was thrown upon a few members of the Committee, which again is eminently unfair. Other professional bodies have succeeded solely in proportion to the energetic support given by their individual members; and Nurses I am sure only need to be reminded of the fact that membership implies co-operation in the work, to take as active a share in the advancement of their Association

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