

lar than after regular labors, and the higher it rises the longer it takes to fall to the minimum.

In multiparæ it reaches its maximum in 6–7 hours after the birth of the child, then falls uninterruptedly for 10–12 hours, so that

{	<i>Max.</i> is reached in 6–7 hours after birth,
	<i>Min.</i> “ “ 16–19 “ “ “

This rise and fall of temperature after labor is modified by the usual *diurnal* rise and fall (*i.e.*, rise during the day and fall during the night), so that the actual temperature of any given case is really the resultant of these two temperature curves. It is evident therefore that the temperature of the first day hinges upon the time of day when labor terminated. If the twelve-hour rise which follows labor coincides in point of time with the normal daily rise, the temperature may run up to 100° or even 101° , but if it is met and counterbalanced, so to speak, by the daily physiological ebb, there may be little or no observable elevation of temperature. This may be tabulated as follows :

In births from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. the rise is most marked. The temperature usually runs up 1° – 2° and reaches its *max.* about 5 P.M., when it begins to fall and reaches its *min.* about midnight. Births at 2 P.M. show the highest temperature,— 101.4° has been observed by 5 P.M., the *min.* not being reached till the next morning.

In births from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. the rise is growing less marked.

In births from 6 p.m. to 4 a.m. the ebb is encountered and the rise is very slight.

In a general way it may be said that [rise.

{	Births during the night are generally followed by little or no
	“ “ “ day are generally followed by marked rise.

During the first day the normal limits may be set down as 98.5° to 100.5° .

From the 2nd to 8th day, the temperature follows the ordinary physiological course, the average temperature from day to day varying only $.11^{\circ}$ – $.56^{\circ}$ F. It is important, however, to remember the diurnal variation when estimating the significance of any given temperature. There is a daily variation between the