

defined. The patient complains of vague pains and cramps in the stomach. Pains in the loins indicate the seat of the condition, and on making a vaginal examination we will often find the uterine orifice plugged by a portion of the placenta or blood clot, which prevents the exit of the blood.

Post partum hemorrhage has been divided into primary and secondary, but as to the boundary line between the two unfortunately authors differ, but I think the weight of opinion is to regard all hemorrhages during the first twenty-four hours as primary, that occurring later, secondary.

*Prognosis.*—As to the prognosis, the earlier the bleeding occurs and the greater the loss of blood, the graver it is; also, if the blood is thin and serum like, and free from clots, the fluid itself is at fault and the danger greater. Then, later, we have more or less danger from sepsis and the weakened condition of the patient, which must be considered.

*Treatment.*—I will now pass on to the treatment, and I might here affirm what a celebrated author has said, that "no one should attend an obstetrical case who has not a clearly defined programme to be put into immediate execution, should the dangerous complication arise," for in no other disease is time of such paramount importance as when the widely opened blood-vessels are pouring forth the "vital fluid," when seconds are as minutes and minutes hours, when either nature or the attendant must promptly interfere, else another soul will have joined the silent majority, and we have another failure to record.

Fortunately we can, by careful attention to details, reduce the fatal cases to a minimum. I think the statistics of hospital practice give one death in about 2000 or thereabouts. Certainly the death rate would be lower in hospitals, where everything is at hand for any emergency, and we have skilled assistance; quite different in private practice, where at times it is difficult to get even a supply of hot water, and where the assistants are oft-times quite useless. It is well, therefore, even in the simplest cases, to make provision against the possible occurrence of hemorrhage. I would, therefore, urge the necessity of examining your syringe to see that it is in perfect working order and ready for immediate use; also have your hypodermic and ergot, ether, brandy and other