

Bicycling for Women.

IN the majority of instances women are rendered more healthy by the judicious use of the wheel as a means of gaining fresh air and exercise. There is much to be desired in the way of a suitable saddle. With the saddles at present in use, if the handle bars are low, pressure of the front part of the saddle may come where it will produce irritation, local excitement or pain in the parts pressed upon. This may be avoided by riding in the erect posture with the handles high, but a broader seat without the front projection as found in the saddle of to-day would over-come a great deal of the difficulty. From the reports of a large number of American physicians we note that there are very few uterine or ovarian disorders which are aggravated by a moderate use of the popular "cycle."

We would be pleased to have short reports of any cases in which cycling has proved injurious.

The Case of Dr. Fred. C. Stevenson.

It has happened before, and history is sure to repeat itself, that medical men in the discharge of their professional duties will meet with most uncalled for criticism and violent attacks. Suits for malpractice have been taken against medical men on the most unjust grounds. We have had instances where doctors have been put to great expense and prolonged effort in defending themselves against a charge that had no other foundation to rest upon than malice.

Every medical man knows that cases will arise where, in his judgment, it becomes necessary to perform an important or major operation. These operations are undertaken with the motive of relieving the patient of suffering on the one hand, and of prolonging life on the other. One of the most important of all the operations that any physician may be called upon to perform is that of the induction of premature labor. It is no longer necessary to contest the ground that this operation is thoroughly justifiable under certain conditions. This ground has been fought and won from credulity and ignorance long ago. This operation is a very serious one because it means in most cases the destruction of the foetus. This, however, has been recognized as a perfectly proper thing to do when there is no other course open to the attending physician to save the life of the pregnant woman.

This operation Dr. Stevenson thought it his duty to perform. He