

examination; but do not make that vaginal examination without authority, and warn your doctor that he is likely to be wanted within a few hours.

"I do want you to realise the danger of faecal matter. The only way to deal with it is to have dozens of swabs, and every time the slightest bit of faecal matter appears, to wipe it away. Do not run any risks; 30, 40 or 50 swabs are not too many.

"When you are putting the iodine on the vulva, great care must be taken to apply it thoroughly, as it is very difficult to introduce the forceps aseptically and without touching the outside skin.

"During the time the doctor is introducing the forceps is the time you have to help the doctor all you can. It is a very difficult job for the nurse to do this at this moment, and I think the whole thing is fraught with difficulty for the nurse. She must be very quick, and as soon as the child is born she must lift the

patient on to her back and slip round to the other side and tie the cord. You must watch what your doctor wants and follow his ideas. Every good soldier has to follow his leader exactly and give up his own ideas.

"I have repeated what a great many of you know, and perhaps it has been fairly boring to a great many of you; but I think if anyone can go away with a fresh idea, it is of importance to the community; and I hope that you won't think it has not been worth your while coming.

"Next week I propose to deal with the subject of diagnosis without vaginal examination, and if there are any of you who would like to ask questions or to suggest subjects for the next lecture, I am willing to answer any question or accept any suggestions."

Miss Maclean proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Bennett for her lecture, and this was carried by acclamation.

## New Zealand Nurses in America

Sister Guinness, late of Trentham Hospital, who, with Sister Binsted, recently left to do some work in the United States, writes from San Francisco, as follows:

"We had a very enjoyable trip over, but I was not sorry when we arrived, not being the best of sailors. San Francisco is a wonderful city: I like it. It is hilly, and so far the weather has been very good. We have both been very fortunate as regards work, and we arrived just when the American nurses were having Christmas vacation, and we were called straight away. I am at a very nice hospital, in San Mateo, and have had two very charming women as patients. I believe this is

where the nicest people live, but it is rather far from the city. Do you remember Miss Jennings? She is here, too; and Claire Everett is at a private house not far away. Sister Cameron is with the Everetts, and I am with Sisters Taylor and Binsted. The apartments here are wonderful little places—very compact and convenient. We met some very nice Americans on the boat, and were given two letters of introduction to doctors here, but so far have not had to use them. The American nurses we have so far met have been very nice to us. I believe there are quite a number of Australians and New Zealanders here."