for drinking by colouring or pouring all over them, and flies are prevented by a liberal use of quicklime for sprinkling the ground.

The place for slaughtering the thousands of goats, which are sacrificed every year, is surrounded by walls and has cement floors which are kept scrupulously clean. The method of decapitating the unfortunate victims by expert axemen with one blow, seemed almost inhuman as possible, but we wished they would only allow one goat into the enclosure at a time. The carcasses were hung up, skinned and cleaned in a very hygienic manner and the offal was rendered edible with pineapple and buried in deep pits, like all the other rubbish.

Sweepers were busy in all directions, and in spite of the parties of people who gathered in little groups to cook their food, the whole aspect was one of picturesqueness, quiet happiness and neatness.

The authorities exercise a careful control over food which is inspected every morning by sanitary inspectors, and the hotel keepers are not allowed to sell food without a license.

Some of us were fortunate enough to enter the inside of the temple, where in an interior cavity-like place, the image of the Goddess was kept sacred with dimly lighted lamps. It was picturesque but rather stuffy.

It was a pretty sight to see the men, women, and children dressed in maroon leaves walking round the temple accompanied by trumpeters and drummers, but we did not envy those who rolled round or those who progressed by falling upon their knees, throwing a coconut, then getting up again and so on, although we admired their devotion. The oxen were also taken round the temple with garlands of flowers and leave leaves round their necks.

We felt that if only funds permitted, there would be a great opportunity for parties of Doctors and Health Visitors to do some good health propaganda work in the shape of short talks illustrated with posters or lantern slides. All along the road we noticed advertisements for a quick medicine reported to cure gonorrhoea and the proprietors had an enormous van, labelled with the name of their specific, on the outskirts of the Temple area. Surely, if a firm of this kind finds it profitable to spend so much upon advertisement, the Health Authorities could gather many interested audiences if they organized lectures upon the prevention and cure of these and other serious illnesses.

We were all most grateful to Dr. Visvanath for making it possible for us to see this great advance of the Sanitary Authorities in the cause of preventive medicine and we all enjoyed seeing such a happy gathering of people.

(By Miss Lela Raphael, a Student, and another Member of the Party.)

THE MIDWIVES' UNION SECTION

Hon. Secretary—Miss E. M. Round (Sister Saffo), All Saints' Dispensary, Parel, Dr. Colaba, Bombay.
Members are asked to send articles for this Section to the Secretary.

POSITION IN LABOUR

By F. R. Humphreys, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

We are all too much the servants of books and habits. It is often overlooked that the measurements of the pelvis are modified, increased, by making use of certain obstetric positions. Women in labour and their friends are commonly obsessed by a number of traditions which do not include many things which are not within their knowledge. This is not by any means
amongst the Irish. Sometimes a post is held on or to or to a rope belt from the post. Sometimes a kneeling or rather a crouching position is assumed naturally, the knees pressing on the abdomen. This pressure corrects mal-position; or one knee may be fully flexed on the floor, the other pressing on the side of the uterus and displacing the child on that side. It is recommended as a method of preventing and of correcting a transverse presentation.

The different forms of 'squatting' seem to be of real use where delay has occurred—not due to a contracted pelvis—and the use of the forepans seems to be indicated. It is suggested that the 'squatting position' should always be tried before the forcepts. As soon as the head reaches the perineum the horizontal position should be assumed. It is, of course, not called for when the pains are frequent and the head advancing.

A special chair, 'the Obstetrical Chair,' was used for deliveries many centuries. It was even carried about with the midwife. A chair going by the name of Savarastor's Chair was in use in 1547. It was V-shaped, three-legged, with an extension from the angle. The husband sat on the extension, grasping his wife—who sat in front of him—round the abdomen, while she supported her thighs on the arms of the 'V.' Another form of Obstetrical Chair had high sides, with a hole in the centre of the seat, like a modern W.C. seat, the hole prolonged forwards to aid the birth of the child in a manner convenient to the midwife. This chair is named after van Deventer, who used it in 1701. A very crude form of Obstetrical Chair, is used in Central Africa, where the woman sits on a tree stump, and her legs are supported on two separated forked boughs.

It is as well to remember that in London and other large cities and their neighbourhoods, the population is of a very mixed type, and the disproportion between head and pelvis may be due to the pelvis of one race not permitting the head of another race to pass. Thus an Anglo-Indian woman may have the pelvis either of a European or of a Bengali type. The European head may well fail to pass through a small Bengali pelvis.

(From Nursing Notes and Midwives' Chronicle, September 1926.)

THE MOTHERCRAFT PAGE

Acorn Dried Skimmed Milk with Buffalo's Milk Mixtures

Leaflet No. IV

Miss Worth of the Zenaia Mission, Sholapur, who contributed an excellent article to our August Journal, upon the use of a mixture of Acorn Brand Dried Milk and buffaloe's milk, which she has found most successful in Infant Feeding, writes further—

In modifying the buffalo's and Acorn Brand Dried Skimmed Milk Mixtures, I use the following formulas—

Formula I., for babies under three months, and at present I have a baby of nearly 7 months old upon Formula III., one of 9 months and another of 12 months on Formula V. I make up the buffalo's and powdered milk, and then use it in the proportions given in the mixtures for ordinary cow's milk.

I do not give the added salt suggested, as it is far too much for this climate, but just half to one teaspoon of Cod Liver Oil a day, according to the size of the baby.

If I want to use Ideal Milks, to a 6 oz. tin of milk, I add 9 ccs. of water, and then use it as you would cow's milk. The standard measures are