Clinical and other Notes

This case appears to be quite unusual, in that the sharp broken handle of the hayfork passed subcutaneously from the scrotum, over the pubes, into the tissues of the abdominal wall, travelled upwards externally to the ribs, and finally piercing the origin of the pectoralis major reached and stopped at the second rib, where it deposited some hay and a piece of the man's trouser. The height of the fall was only seven feet. The man must have doubled himself up when the handle entered, thus allowing the point to pass superficially to the ribs and causing it to come up against the second rib. Evidence at the inquest showed that a fellow workman pulled some two feet of handle from the man, who then walked home three miles and drove ten more to hospital.

Presumably the proper treatment would have been to lay the whole track open, but no evidence was obtained that there was a long subcutaneous lesion until the abscesses developed.

A LEG CRADLE.

By Lieutenant B. Richardson Billings.

2nd Home Counties Field Ambulance; Royal Army Medical Corps, Territorial Force.

As the result of practical experience, I have designed a leg cradle, modified from the ordinary pattern, as the illustration will show.

The hoops on one side are made concave in the lower part of their ordinary convexity, this hollowing-out allowing the uninjured leg to lie comfortably parallel alongside its fellow, and not in a splayed-out position, as is the case with the ordinary patterns.

Without any prompting the patients on whom I have tried it, after using the old sort, testify as to its superiority on the score of comfort; while the price is no more than that of the ordinary pattern.