

REVIEWS OF BOOKS : BOEKRESENSIES

HORMONES AND VAGINAL CYTOLOGY

Acquisitions Récents en Cytologie Vaginale Hormonale. Par J. Paul Pundel, avec la collaboration de Fernand Schwachtgen et Eugène Ost. 236 pages, avec 62 figs. et xv tableaux. 2,400 fr. Paris: Masson et Cie. 1957.

Table des Matières: Première Partie. La Technique Cytologique des Frottis Vaginaux. *Deuxième Partie.* La Cytochimie de L'Épithélium Vaginal. *Troisième Partie.* Cytologie Vaginale Générale. *Quatrième Partie.* Les Variations Physiologiques de la Cytologie Vaginale de la Naissance à la Postménopause. *Cinquième Partie.* Action des Diverses Hormones sur la Cytologie Vaginale. *Sixième Partie.* Actions de Substances Non Hormonales sur la Cytologie Vaginale. *Septième Partie.* Modifications Cytologiques Bactériennes et Parasitaires. *Huitième Partie.* L'Évaluation Hormonale du Frottis Vaginal. *Neuvième Partie.* Applications Pratiques du Cytodiagnostic Hormonal. Conclusions Générales. Index.

It is only in the last few years that vaginal cytology has attracted much attention, but in a comparatively short time a voluminous literature has accumulated on the subject.

Taking a vaginal smear is a simple, painless procedure and may

be repeated as often as necessary. In gynaecology it has great application in the detection and management of endocrine disorders, genital cancer and vaginal infections and infestations.

J. Paul Pundel in his latest publication deals mainly with the endocrinal applications of cytology, his approach being a very practical one. He discusses the advantages of different types of fixatives and staining and the importance of standard methods to produce accurate staining of cells. Normal cell morphology is described in considerable detail and a plea is made for some sort of uniformity in the description of the different cell types. The influence of hormonal factors upon cytology is explained with reference to normal physiological variations and the modifications which may occur due to cytochemical change resulting from vaginal infections are discussed.

This is an extremely practical and informative book written by an expert on the subject and should be read by anyone interested in cytology, be he gynaecologist, endocrinologist or cytologist.

D.M.

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Preventive Medicine and Public Health. Third Edition. By Fred Grundy, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Pp. vii + 309. Figs. 37. £1 5s. net. London: H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd. 1957.

Contents: I. The Scope of Preventive Medicine and Public Health. *Section I.* Administration and Practice. II. Local and Central Government. III. The National Health Service Act, 1946, and Organised Medicine. IV. Social Security and National Insurance. V. The Health Department of Local Authorities. VI. The Medical and Welfare Services of Local Authorities. VII. The Maternity Services and the Midwife. *Section II.* Principles. VIII. The Assessment of Individual and Community Health. IX. Heredity and Health. X. Environment and Health. XI. The Personal Element: Health Education: The Problem Family. *Section III.* Statistics and the Control of Infectious Diseases. XII. Statistical Methods and their Uses. XIII. Certain Statistics of Mortality and Morbidity. XIV. The Mortality of Mothers and Infants. XV. Population and Health Services. XVI. The Control of Infectious Diseases. *Section IV.* Historical and Certain Other Subjects. XVII. Public Health and Social Welfare: Historical. XVIII. International Health Organisations. *Appendix I.* Illegitimacy and Adoption. *Appendix II.* Child Life Protection. *Appendix III.* Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948. *Appendix IV.* Registration and Supervision of Nursing Homes. *Appendix V.* The Rules of the Central Midwives Board. *Appendix VI.* Mental Deficiency and the Intelligence Quotient. *Appendix VII.* Suggestions for Further Reading. Index.

This most interesting, beautifully printed and readable book reveals the fact that its author, a practising health officer, has never permitted this aspect of the whole problem to be lost sight of. He has with great skill drawn to a very great extent on this experience to produce an instructive and informative introduction to preventative medicine and public health. The chapter on epidemiology is wide in scope and very much in keeping with modern thoughts on this most important discipline.

The present health set-up in the United Kingdom receives more than passing reference: its growth and development from the first Health Acts, the direct results of agitation and propaganda by such public health giants as Chadwick, Farr and Simon, are skilfully and most interestingly traced. The mere fact that this little publication has seen no less than 3 editions within the space of 6 years is indeed proof of its general excellence.

The inclusion of an appendix in which are set out suggestions regarding additional reading has much to commend it in a publication of this nature. I have no hesitation in strongly recommending this little book to all interested in public health in its broader aspects.

E.D.

HAEMOLYTIC DISEASE OF THE NEWBORN

Comparative Aspects of Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn. By G. Fulton Roberts, M.A., M.D. Pp. xi + 199. 17s. 6d. net. London: William Heinemann—Medical Books Ltd. 1957.

HAEMOLYTIC DISEASE OF THE NEWBORN—

Contents: Preface. Introduction. I. The Disease in Man: Historical Aspects. II. The Disease in Man: Haemolytic Anaemia. III. The Disease in Man: Kernicterus. IV. Serological Considerations. V. The Disease in the Horse and the Mule. VI. The Disease in the Pig. VII. The Experimental Production of Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn. VIII. Comparative Aspects of Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn. IX. Treatment. A Note on Nomenclature. Appendix. References. Index.

This is an interesting little book. The author is well qualified to write on this topic and has previously written an eminently readable book on the Rhesus factor. In this book he sets out to compare haemolytic disease as it is seen in humans, in the horse, the mule, in the pig and in other animals.

The author disclaims any credit for personal research, the only unaided work described being that on the historical aspects of the disease. Dr. Fulton Roberts has obviously delved deeply into the relevant literature, much of it written in languages other than English, and this alone makes the book very well worthwhile. The description of the disease as seen in man adds little to what is generally taught, but medical men will be grateful for the sections on the disease in animals. They will once again see just how similar disease in animals can be when compared with that occurring in humans. We are becoming accustomed to seeing advances in medicine being applied to animal work and would wish that there could be more 'traffic in the reverse direction'. For there must be many unrecognised principles of disease in animals which have a bearing on the disease in man. It is books like this one which bring out how much each of these sciences stands to gain from the other and one would wish there were more books like it.

C.M.

POSITIONING IN RADIOGRAPHY

Positioning in Radiography. Seventh Edition. By K. C. Clark, M.B.E., F.S.R. Pp. 655 with 2,150 illustrations. 105s. London: William Heinemann (Medical Books) Ltd. 1956.

Contents: Preliminary Note. 1. Upper Limb. 2. Humerus and Shoulder Girdle. 3. Lower Limb. 4. Hip Joint and Upper Third of Femur. 5. Pelvic Girdle. 6. Vertebral Column. 7. Vertebral Column. 8. Bone of Thorax. 9. Skull. 10. Mandible. 11. Salivary Glands. 12. Air Sinuses of the Skull. 13. Optic Foramina. 14. Lacrimal Ducts. 15. Temporal Bones. 16. Ventricle and Encephalography. 17. Subject Types. 18. Heart and Aorta. 19. Kymography. 20. Respiratory System. Thymus Gland. 21. Tomography. 22. Alimentary Tract. 23. Abdomen. 24. Gall Bladder. 25. Urinary Tract. Prostate. 26. Female Genital Organs. 27. Foreign Bodies. 28. Dental. 29. Soft Tissue. 30. Myelography. 31. Stereography. 32. Miniature Radiography. 33. Cineradiography. 34. Macro-radiography. 35. Angiography. *Supplements:* 1. Contrast Media. 2. Note on the Exposure Tables. 3. Radiation Exposure to the Patient. 4. Metric Equivalents.

In her seventh edition of 'Positioning in Radiography', Miss K. C. Clark has continued to display her superb ability to produce a really magnificent text book of radiographic techniques.

Each previous edition has been regarded as a standard reference for the radio-diagnostic department, and this reputation is further enhanced by the present publication. Every position which can be utilised for radiographic examination of all sections and systems of the body is fully described and the necessary exposure factors are given. Some 600 new illustrations have been added and, as before, the reproductions leave nothing to be desired.

The text has been increased by 120 pages.

Details of macro-radiography, although not widely employed, are a useful addition.

Cineradiography has been described more fully and image intensification is discussed.

A chapter on radiation exposure to the patient is of particular importance, in view of the need for the fullest appreciation of radiation hazards.

It is thought that a description of protective devices for the patient would have been an advantage, but no doubt this omission will be rectified in the next edition.

The highest praise must be given to Miss Clark for her most valuable publication. The book is an essential for the training and guidance of radiographers. To all who do diagnostic radiology, it is a mine of information.

J.J.N.

HUMAN FERTILITY AND STERILITY

Studies on Fertility 1956. Volume VIII. Edited by R. G. Harrison, M.A., D.M. Pp. x + 138. Illustrations. 25s. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1957.

Contents: *The Male.* (a) Human Fertility. I. The Use of Partitioned Ejaculates in Investigating the Role of Accessory Secretions in Human Semen, by Clare Harvey. II. Pregnancy following Artificial Insemination from Epididymal Cyst, by H. G. Hanley. III. Testicular Biopsy in Sterile and Subfertile Males, by J. H. Carver. (b) Fertility in the Experimental Animal. IV. The Effects of Unilateral Orchiectomy on the Rat Testis, by J. H. Grant. V. Studies relating to the Storage of Mammalian Spermatozoa, by I. G. White. VI. The Influence of Seminal Fluid on Fertility, by N. T. Werthessen, W. Marden, F. Haag and J. W. Goldzieher. VII. The Initiation of Motility in Mammalian Spermatozoa, by A. Walton. VIII. The Mechanism of Spermiation in the Male Frog, *Rana esculenta*, by J. Botella-Llusia, F. Plaza and J. R. Del Sol. IX. The Immediate Effects of Occlusion of Superior Epididymal Arteries in the Rat as Demonstrated by the use of Radiopaque Medium, by E. W. Macmillan. X. Thermoregulation of the Testis at High Temperature, by G. A. Harrison and R. Harris. *The Female.* (a) Human Fertility. XI. The Use of a New Long-acting Progestational Compound (17-Alpha-Hydroxyprogesterone-Capronate) in Infertility and Habitual Abortion, by E. T. Tyler. XII. Brief Evaluation of some Therapeutic Measures used at an Infertility Clinic during the past Twenty Years, by M. C. N. Jackson. (b) Fertility in the Experimental animal. XIII. An attempt to produce the Hertwig effect by X-irradiation of male mice, by H. M. Bruce and C. R. Austin. Subject Index. Author Index.

Most of the papers in this volume were read at a meeting of the Society for the Study of Fertility held in London in 1956. Results from both the clinical and the experimental fields of investigation are presented. Of the thirteen chapters in the book ten are devoted to studies of fertility in the male.

The section on the male includes an interesting report by H. G. Hanley of St. Paul's Hospital, London. He finds that in cases in which azoospermia is due to congenital abnormalities, e.g. absence of the vasa, an artificial spermatocele can be formed by the insertion of a loosely folded ball of amnion inside the head of

the epididymis. From such an artificial epididymal cyst, spermatozoa capable of fertilising the ovum can be aspirated.

Studies by E. T. Tyler of the School of Medicine, University of California, indicate that a new steroid ester, 17-alpha-hydroxyprogesterone caproate, is of value in the treatment of infertility due to 'luteal defects' and in habitual abortion. This new steroid is a highly potent long-acting progestational compound which can be administered in large doses with relatively little side effects.

The major part of this symposium is devoted to fertility studies in the experimental animal and as such may have a less immediate appeal to the clinician. On the whole, however, both experimentalist and clinician will find the results recorded in this volume of great interest.

H.J

BAIRD'S TEXTBOOK OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

Combined Textbook Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Sixth Edition. Edited by Dugald Baird, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.O.G. Pp. xii + 936. Figs. 492 (27 in colour). 95s. net + 2s. 6d. postage abroad. Edinburgh & London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1957.

Contents: Part I. Anatomy of the Genital Organs. I. Anatomy of the Female Pelvis and the External Organs of Generation. II. Anatomy of the Internal Genital Organs—Female. *Part II. Physiology of the Reproductive System.* III. Physiology of the Reproductive System. IV. Development of the Embryo and Membranes. V. Anatomical Changes resulting from Pregnancy. VI. Physiology and Nutrition in pregnancy and lactation. VII. The Factors of Labour. VIII. The Phenomena of Labour. IX. Normal Puerperium. X. The Newborn Infant. *Part III. Management of Pregnancy and Labour.* XI. Examination of the Reproductive System; General Procedure in Gynaecology and Obstetrics. XII. Signs and Symptoms—Differential Diagnosis of Pregnancy. XIII. The Duration of Pregnancy—Causes of the Onset of Labour. XIV. Antenatal Care. XV. Preparation for and Management of Labour. XVI. Sedatives—Analgesics—Anaesthetics. XVII. Management of the Puerperium and Post-Natal Care. XVIII. The Care of the Newborn. *Part IV. Pathology of Pregnancy.* XIX. Abortion or Miscarriage. XX. Abnormalities of Implantation of the Ovum—Pregnancy in Tube,—Peritoneum—Pregnancy in Rudimentary Horn—Angular Pregnancy. XXI. Diseases and Abnormalities of the Ovum. XXII. The Association of Pregnancy with Systemic Disorders. XXIII. Disturbances of the Reproductive System Complicating Pregnancy. XXIV. Vomiting in Pregnancy. XXV. The Toxaemia of Pregnancy. XXVI. Haemorrhage in Later Months of Pregnancy. XXVII. Dystocia. XXVIII. Dystocia due to Faults in the Child. XXIX. Complications arising from Abnormalities of the Umbilical Cord and Membranes. XXX. Injuries to the Birth Canal and Other Accidents to the Mother. XXXI. Third Stage and Postpartum Dystocia. XXXII. Post-Haemorrhagic Collapse and Shock in Obstetrics; Blood Transfusion. XXXIII. Complications of the Puer-

perium. XXXIV. Birth Injury and Anoxia. XXXV. The Premature Infant. XXXVI. The Physiological Adjustments of Neonatal Life and their Dangers. XXXVII. Malformations in the Newborn. XXXVIII. Infections in the Newborn. XXXIX. Obstetric Operations. XL. Vital Statistics and Reproduction. *Part V. Gynaecology.* XLI. The Investigation of the Gynaecological Patient. XLII. Disorders of Female Sex Function. XLIII. Malformations of the Reproductive Organs. XLIV. Displacements of the Uterus. XLV. Infections of the Reproductive Organs. XLVI. Tumours of the Vulva, Urethra and Vagina. XLVII. Diseases of the Uterus. XLVIII. Diseases of the Ovary. Broad Ligament and Fallopian Tubes, excluding Inflammatory Disease. XLIX. Endometriosis. L. Sterility. LI. Family Planning. LII. Psychological Aspects of Midwifery and Gynaecology. LIII. Some Medico-Legal Considerations. *Part VI. Gynaecological Operations.* Index.

The publishers have given admirable execution to the wish expressed in the Editor's preface, that this new edition should be more convenient to handle than its rather cumbersome predecessor. By closer print and spacing, as well as an increase in width of page, the new volume has been reduced by a full inch in thickness and is almost 400 pages smaller and in thus following the modern trend in medical textbook publications, permits easy handling even by women students and practitioners. Also following recent trends, there is less anatomy, more physiology; fewer drawings but more and better photographs.

All this has been accomplished without loss of essential text, much of which has been rewritten, incorporating recent advances. Amongst these, the pioneer work done in Aberdeen on Obstetric and Gynaecological epidemiology is in welcome evidence, notably in the chapters on dystocia, vital statistics, and carcinoma of the cervix. 'However great may be our aversion to figures we cannot escape the conclusion that the solution of most of the problems of clinical or preventive medicine must ultimately depend on them.' On the other hand, the importance of the psychological aspect of the patient, and of the personal relationship between her and her doctor is stressed even more than before. The contribution of the National Health scheme in making the best hospital care plus a great deal of personal attention available even to the poorest of patients, is pointed out in the chapter on antenatal care, one well worth re-reading at regular intervals by anyone engaged in obstetric practice, be he or she student, general practitioner or consultant.

This book breathes the very spirit of Scottish Obstetrics and Gynaecology—cold logic on the one hand, the humane touch on the other. It is this spirit which has made possible over the past half-century the immense Scottish contributions to what we now know as antenatal care.

J.P.R.