

The first part of the book discusses the normal changes in the circulation during pregnancy, labor and the puerperium, and the changes in the diseased heart during pregnancy. Then follows a description of heart physiology and heart disease in a general sense. After this come chapters on the lesions of the valves and on abnormal mechanisms of the heart's action, in which the complicating presence of pregnancy is taken up for discussion in an engaging personal manner, with usually an illustrative case, and with a short final summary to each chapter. The closing sections are on the management of cases of pregnancy associated with heart disease, and a final general summary, an excellent epitome of the subject.

Undoubtedly a study of this book, presenting, as it does, the latest word in cardiology, will assist the obstetrician in understanding more fully and treating with greater success heart disease during pregnancy.

P. F. W.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY. Edited by JOHN S. FAIRBAIRN, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., Obstetric Physician, St. Thomas's Hospital. Pp. 950; 175 illustrations. London: Henry Frowde, Hodder and Stoughton, 1921.

APPRECIATING that reproduction, diseases of women and other medical and social aspects of woman's life are intimately intermingled, and with the conviction that such problems should be studied and taught under one head as they are met in practice, the editor has assembled these kindred topics in one volume. To this end the assistance of fifty-eight contributing authors, including five women, has been called upon to produce an unusually comprehensive, virtually encyclopedic, consideration of the reproductive system in woman and its correlated organs.

The volume is larger than most text-books, slightly difficult to handle from its bulkiness, and although the pages are double-columned the print is easily readable. The illustrations, while relatively few, have been well chosen. The subject-matter is divided in seven parts, composed of 109 sections or chapters. In order are discussed the female reproductive organs, normal and abnormal reproduction, the infant, diseases of women, public health, social and medicolegal problems and operative and other therapeutic procedures. It is interesting to note that puerperal infections are not discussed under the abnormal puerperium, but later as a gynecologic topic. The classification of morbid conditions in diseases of women follows a pathological rather than an anatomical basis. With so many authors some repetition has been unavoidable, but the difference in viewpoint is of value to the reader. The most marked example of reduplication is in the sections on the relief of pain in labor, and amnesic narcosis (twilight sleep).

It is difficult to single out any special part or section for commendation among so many excellent contributions. The modern trend of affairs is sufficient reason for the inclusion of the interesting chapters dealing with communal, social and legal aspects of woman's reproductive life. The volume is a splendid work of reference on obstetrics, gynecology and closely allied subjects, and reflects great credit on the editor and his large and very able staff of associates.

P. F. W.

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COLLECTED STUDIES OF THE BUREAU OF LABORATORIES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK. DR. WILLIAM H. PARK, Director. Vol. IX, 1916-1919. Pp. 491. Published by the Department of Health of New York, 1921.

THE 58 articles comprising this volume (the first to appear since 1915) represent the investigations conducted under Dr. Park's direction between 1916 and 1919 by Krumwiede, Tingler, Hess, Pratt and other well known investigators in the New York Department of Health Laboratories. Although unfortunate that it could not either have been made to include more recent work or else have appeared earlier, it is like most collections of this kind an extremely useful reference book for workers in the same fields. The table of contents is classified into: (1) Applied Therapy and Preventive Medicine; (2) Bacteriology; (3) Chemistry; (4) Diagnosis; (5) Etiology; (6) Immunity; (7) Sanitation; (8) Physiology; (9) Serology.

E. B. K.

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THE HEART: OLD AND NEW VIEWS. By H. L. FLINT, M.D., Late Captain R.A.M.C., Cardiologist, Center for the Northern Command. Pp. 177. New York: Paul B. Hoeber.

THIS little book is divided into two parts. The first is entitled "The Heart in Antiquity" and contains a brief account of views regarding the heart and its diseases from earliest Sumerian times to the latter part of the nineteenth century. The second is headed "The Development of Instruments and Instrumental Methods." For the most part the discussion is concerned with the polygraph, the electrocardiograph and the arrhythmias. A brief historical summary of the development of knowledge concerning the functions of heart muscle is included. A few pages only are devoted to the interpretation of physical signs, the diagnosis of heart disease, heart failure and treatment.

The book contains much of interest and value for the student or practitioner who wishes to acquaint himself with the great names