

the treatment of acute meningitis would care to compete with Dr. Macrae's record of 104 cases of meningococcal meningitis treated since 1946 with no deaths and a total ascertained morbidity of one case of deafness?

## REFERENCES

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## Book Reviews

### HISTORICAL REVIEW OF BRITISH OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY, 1800 to 1950

Edited by J. M. MUNRO KERR, R. W. JOHNSTONE and MILES H. PHILLIPS. Pp. viii + 420. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1954. 30s.

The 25th anniversary of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists was a fitting occasion to publish this most enterprising and excellent book. It was written as a sequel to Spencer's 'History of British Midwifery, 1650 to 1800.' It reviews the next 150 years and ends with a wide summary of contemporary subjects.

The names of the three editors guarantee a high level of interest and accuracy. The first two editors are themselves responsible for the twenty chapters comprising the historical section, which is divided into three parts, each covering fifty years. Bethel Solomons concludes with a chapter on Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Ireland since 1800.

There then follows a section devoted to special subjects, varying from 'Puerperal Sepsis' by Leonard Colebrook to 'Obstetrical Societies and Clubs' by Eardley Holland. The last section of the book is concerned with gynaecology in its various aspects, both historical and contemporary. Particularly interesting is the story of Wertheim's visit to this country in 1905, and the performance of his new abdominal operation for carcinoma of the cervix at St. Mary's Hospital, Plaistow, when he was assisted by Lockyer.

In a brief review it is difficult to do more than mention the eminent contributors who have written essays on each special subject. This is certainly a book which all interested in the subject ought to possess.

D.W.S.G.

### CHEMOTHERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

Pp. 60, with six illustrations. London: N.A.P.T. 1954. 5s.

The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis have collected into this booklet eleven papers read at a meeting held in Cambridge in September 1953. The papers cover chemotherapy in the treatment of tuberculosis, and the booklet is recommended to our readers.

### ANTISERA, TOXOIDS, VACCINES AND TUBERCULINS IN PROPHYLAXIS AND TREATMENT

By H. J. PARISH, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.H. Third edition. Pp. x + 227. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1954. 21s.

During the training of a medical student very little detailed information is given on the many prophylactic agents at his disposal. As a result when faced by the problem of, say, immunizing a family going overseas most practitioners need a handy reference book giving complete details of immunizing methods. This book can be safely recommended to every doctor who may have to carry out any type of immunization procedure. He will also find that the book is full of interesting general information and that it is very readable.

R.H.G.