

BOOK REVIEW

A TEXT-BOOK OF GYNAECOLOGY

By Dr. K. M. Masani

This text-book is yet another valuable addition to the comparatively few books written by Indian authors and with particular reference to Indian conditions. In its 14 sections and 52 chapters, the author has compressed a good deal of valuable information and has presented it in a form that will prove very useful particularly to the undergraduate. The preliminary chapters on anatomy, the development and the abnormalities of the genital organs, though brief, contain the essential facts to understand the subject. The methods of gynaecological examination and the recording of history have been presented with clarity. Regarding diagnostic aids, we fully agree with the author that "it would be most unfortunate if future generations of gynaecologists become servile to diagnostic aids and lose their clinical heritage."

A few chapters have been contributed by well known specialists in the line and this adds to the value of the publication and we are glad that the author has indented on their assistance as collaborators in the work. Yet, in a text-book, there is something to be said for the same author presenting his view point in regard to all aspects of the subject and thus giving his personal impressions and experiences. We would however say that the chapters

contributed by the different authors are very valuable and well worth incorporation.

The author has also given in a few of the chapters a historical introduction. It is rather difficult in a text-book of this nature to give a full historical survey of the disease nor would it appear to be very appropriate to give it for a few chapters and not for others. Yet such historical reviews, as have been given, are of interest. The chapter on operations necessarily contains but very brief sketch of the scope and nature of the operations and, for this reason, perhaps they might have been put under the respective chapters where they would have been more appropriate.

These few remarks apart, the author is to be congratulated on getting up a very useful text-book written in a free and easy style and with a clear appreciation of what can possibly be expected to serve the needs of the undergraduate or the junior practitioner. The printing and get-up of the book is excellent and the publishers are to be congratulated on the get-up. This book is well worth being prescribed as a text-book for undergraduates in the medical colleges in this country.

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