

REPORT OF CONFERENCE

BY

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The 8th All-India Obstetric and Gynaecological Congress was held in Bombay at the Cowasjee Jehangir Hall from 23rd to 26th March 1955.

The 23rd was reserved for the Committee and Business Meetings.

Inauguration

The Congress was inaugurated on the morning of the twentyfourth by Shri Hare Krushna Mehtab, the Governor of Bombay, after the welcome speech by Dr. V. N. Shirodkar, Chairman of the Reception Committee. Dr. H. M. Lazarus, the outgoing President of the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India presided on the occasion. After the inauguration, Dr. Lazarus handed over the office of the President to Dr. D. J. R. Dadabhoy, the president-elect. Dr. Dadabhoy then occupied the presidential chair and delivered her address.

Immediately after the Presidential address was delivered, the Scientific and Trade Exhibitions were declared open by Dr. Jivraj Mehta, the Minister of Finance, Prohibition and Industries, Bombay.

After a vote of thanks moved by Dr. Chamanlal Mehta thanking the distinguished guests as well as all the delegates and other members, the Governor and Dr. Jivraj Mehta were

shown round the Scientific and Trade Exhibitions.

The inauguration was very well attended by a large number of delegates, Reception Committee members, prominent citizens and visitors.

Scientific Sessions

The Scientific Sessions commenced on the afternoon of the 24th, at the C. J. Hall, and continued till 3-30 P.M. on the 26th.

The main subjects for discussion were:

- (i) Abnormalities of the third stage of labour
- (ii) Malignant ovarian neoplasms
- (iii) Statistical survey (a) New born infants regarding weight, length, circumference of head and chest; (b) Prolapse of the uterus in relation to parity and age.

Ten papers were read on the subject (i); 14 papers on the subject (ii) and 5 papers on the subject (iii). In addition to these 12 papers on other subjects were also read.

After the summary of each paper was read, written questions were answered by the respective speakers.

The Scientific Exhibition

The scientific exhibition was very much appreciated by the members attending the Congress. Besides

the conventional exhibits of specimens, and statistical data, a section of extracurricular hobbies of obstetricians was organised for the first time. Among the exhibits were delicate embroidery work, paintings, wood carvings and collection of coins and stamps. Several cartoons drawn by two junior members on obstetrical and gynaecological aspects aroused considerable interest and amusement. Section on blood transfusion consisted of several blood transfusion apparatus as used in the past in different countries as well as illustrative charts of Rh factor and methods of replacement transfusion. Another interesting feature of the exhibition was a large map of the city of Bombay showing the obstetric and gynaecological facilities in different parts of the city.

Socials

A pleasant social function followed by a banquet was held on the evening of the 24th at the Willingdon Sports Club. The banquet was attended by about 200 members, and a few invited distinguished guests. Shri Hare Krushna Mehtab, the Governor of Bombay, Dr. Jivraj Mehta and the Mayor of Bombay were among the guests.

On 25th a Boat Cruise along Bombay Harbour was arranged by courtesy of M/s Roussel Laboratories, Paris, with musical entertainment and dinner on board. The Boat Cruise was very enjoyable and was very much appreciated particularly by members from outside Bombay.

On the evening of the 26th a trip to the Government sponsored Aarey Milk Colony about 15 miles outside the city of Bombay was arranged where the members were shown the working of the dairy. After partaking of light refreshments the party returned to Bombay at about 9 P.M.

The congressists were also entertained at lunches and tea parties by the following pharmaceutical firms.

M/ Ciba Pharma Ltd.; M/s Unichem Laboratories; M/s Zandu Pharmaceutical Works Ltd.; and M/s Cipla Laboratories.

Trade Exhibition

Various prominent pharmaceutical firms took part in this exhibition. In all there were 23 stalls. Unfortunately due to limited space available at the Congress premises some of the firms could not be accommodated in the Exhibition.