

BOOK REVIEWS

Lehrbuch der Gynäkologie by K. KNÖRR, F. K. BELLER and C. LAURITZEN.
XV + 431 pp., 240 fig. Springer Verlag, Berlin/Heidelberg/New York, 1972.
DM 38,—; ca. US \$ 11.90.

This book is written for the new type of student, who prefers to be taught in small groups, and not to be bothered with old theories and hobbies of his teachers. The price of this work is so low, that everyone can afford to buy it.

The authors try to explain the classical gynecological syndromes of the physiology of the female genital organs. Special attention is paid to the gynecological endocrinology. LAURITZEN has made it clear, that knowledge of the hormonal status of the female organism, in her different periods of life under physiological and pathophysiological circumstances, is necessary to diagnose and treat precisely several gynecological diseases. The authors have also written good chapters on subjects as preventive medicine and psychosomatic diseases in gynecology.

Apart from some undue dogmatism (space-saving?) there is little to criticize in the contents of this book and its authors are to be congratulated on the really up to date text. One hopes that the new type of student does not think that a book of 431 pages is too thick to learn gynecology in a modern way.

P. G. HART, Utrecht

Methoden der pharmakologischen Geburtserleichterung und Uterus-Relaxation. Edited by H. JUNG. VIII + 192 pp., 131 fig., 50 tables. Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1972. DM 44,—.

HUGO JUNG reports on the International Symposium held in Aachen, June 1970. Papers were presented on: uterine activity and cervical dilatation; analgetics, local and general anesthesia in obstetrics; uterine inhibition. Most of the data presented were derived from external recordings of uterine contractions, fetal tachograms and fetal blood analysis. The role of betamimetic drugs, alcohol and calcium antagonists as research tools in the study of inhibition of uterine activity is extensively discussed.

It is to be deplored that since most papers are written in German not all interested obstetricians will have access to the contents of this international symposium.

T. K. A. B. ESKES, Nijmegen

Ovulationshemmung durch Hormone by JÜRGEN HALLER. XII + 251 pp., 82 fig., 51 tables. Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1971, 3rd ed. DM 39,80.

This book which first appeared in 1965, serves as the most authoritative work on hormonal contraception in the German language. This 3rd edition has been translated by HERBERT GOTTFRIED into English.

Recent developments in hormonal contraception have necessitated a revision of all chapters. These changes include effects upon tubal motility, multiple sclerosis and vaginal infections, as well as the influence upon the metabolism of tryptophane, nitrogen and