

Bradley has to explain why it is "natural" for a husband, and, for that matter, an obstetrician, to be present at his wife's delivery. To account for the husband's presence he suggests that woman, unlike the female of other species, lacks the necessary instinctive knowledge and must be "guided, directed, and encouraged" by her mate.

Dr. Bradley is as well intentioned as he is enthusiastic, but in pleading his cause he adopts a style which has an emotional appeal to the lay reader, often at the expense of science and logic. Having pointed out that the act of birth is similar to one of defaecation, and is the result of a similar sensation, he has the problem of explaining why it is natural for the husband to attend on his wife at delivery but not when she is at toilet. He also has to try to justify his view that all women should be delivered in hospital, especially when Dr. Montague, in the foreword, says that, in order to keep child-birth a family affair, domiciliary delivery is the ideal.

A host of debatable if not patently untrue statements made by the author include the following: Women doctors comprise the worst class of patients in the delivery room; the best physical age for child-bearing is approxi-

mately 14 years; telepathy and clairvoyance are human instincts, and they can be brought into play to make of some value the old discredited method of determining the sex of the unborn child by suspending a ring over the pregnant abdomen. He also alleges that no anaesthetic is necessary for episiotomy because the stretched perineum is insensitive. With a wink he shows the husband the scissors as he prepares to make the incision, yet, in Dr. Bradley's experience, no husband has fainted in the delivery room. Why should episiotomy so often be necessary, and why should routine circumcision be practised on all male babies, as parts of natural child-birth? The author attempts answers to these questions, but they are not too convincing.

Having first stated that the husband's role in the delivery room is that of lover, this book is mainly concerned to make him into a nurse or obstetrician. To this end the husband as well as the wife should attend classes for preparation for labour, there to learn not only simple reproductive physiology but the techniques for physical and mental relaxation, and for controlled respiration. It is his duty to ensure that his wife performs all the prenatal (and post-natal) exercises regularly. He is advised not to allow her

into his bed each night until she has rocked her pelvis a sufficient number of times. He should stop her wearing panties during pregnancy, and should learn to listen to the foetal heart. But it must be added that, if the extravagancies could be eliminated, the section concerning the husband's attitude to his wife during pregnancy contains much that is extremely valuable and informative.

When labour starts, and having assumed his "hatching jacket," the husband enters the labour room, and ultimately the delivery room, to continue to coach his wife in what she should do. For this purpose he is provided with a "daddy stool" to take the place of an anaesthetist; he feels the abdomen to see if the "baby box" ("menstruator" when not pregnant) is contracting, and tells her when and how to push. But for husband-coached childbirth to be perfect, the expectant father should be equipped with a camera to photograph the actual birth. The prints are then available for propaganda, to show to acquaintances, and especially to give to the child, who a few years later, in showing her album to her friends, can boast, "Daddy helped born me."

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Books Received

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Morbid Jealousy and Murder. By Ronald Rae Mowat. (Pp. 131+xii. 30s.) London: Tavistock. 1966.

Anthology of Orthopaedics. By Mercer Bang, F.R.C.S. (Pp. 243+xi; illustrated. 42s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

Basic Bacteriology. 3rd edition. By Carl Laromma, Ph.D. and M. Frank Mallette, Ph.D. (Pp. 1001+xiv; illustrated. £7.) Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

The Year Book of Anesthesia. 1965-1966 Series. Edited by Stuart C. Cullen, M.D. (Pp. 389; illustrated. 64s.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. London: Lloyd-Luke. 1965.

Differentialdiagnose Hämatologischer Erkrankungen. By Professor W. Lawkowicz and Dr. I. Krzeminska-Lawkowicz. (Pp. 642+xvi; illustrated. DM.110.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1965.

Intern's Manual. (Cook County Hospital). 3rd edition. By Arthur Bernstein, M.D. (Pp. 357+ix. 27s.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. London: Lloyd-Luke. 1965.

Antibiotika-Ratgeber. By Dr. Rolf Patsch. (Pp. 188. £1 5s. 3d.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1965.

Surgery for Nurses. 10th edition. By James Moroney, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Pp. 827+xii; illustrated. 40s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1966.

Chemical Aspects of the Autonomic Nervous System. By D. J. Triggle. (Pp. 329+ix; illustrated. 75s.) London and New York: Academic Press. 1965.

Handbook for Mortuary Technicians. By J. L. Emery, M.D., D.C.H., F.C.Path., and A. G. Marshall, M.A., M.D., F.C.Path. (Pp. 220+xi. 42s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1965.

The Spiral After-Effect. By Harry C. Holland. (Pp. 128+xii; illustrated. 35s.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

Psychosocial Aspects of Drug-Taking. Proceedings of Conference, London, 1964. Foreword by R. G. Andry, M.A., Ph.D. Summarized by Derrick Sington. (Pp. 45. 7s. 6d.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

Good Health in the Tropics. Advice to Travellers and Settlers. 2nd edition. By W. H. Jopling, F.R.C.P.(Ed.), M.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.). (Pp. 32. 3s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright. 1966.

Essentials of Gynecology. 3rd edition. By E. Stewart Taylor, M.D. (Pp. 603. £5 12s. 6d.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

Oral Antidiabetic Therapy 1956-1965: With Particular Reference to Tolbutamide (Orinase). By H. A. Tucker, M.D. (Pp. 676+ix. \$13.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1965.

Forward to Retirement. By Lorna M. Hubbard and J. N. Agate. (Pp. 32; illustrated. 3s. 6d.) London: B.B.C. 1965.

Cardiac Evaluation in Normal Infants. By Robert F. Ziegler, M.D. (Pp. 170+ix; illustrated. 96s.) Saint Louis, Miss.: C. V. Mosby. London: Henry Kimpton. 1965.

The Stomach. By Stewart Wolf, M.D. (Pp. 321; illustrated. 36s.) New York and London: Oxford University Press. 1965.

Voice Science. 2nd edition. By Lyman S. V. Judson and Andrew Thomas Weaver. (Pp. 496+xxi; illustrated. 63s.) London: Vision. 1966.

Spatiocardiography. Textbook and Atlas. By Vilem Laufberger, M.D., D.Sc., D.h.c. (Pp. 183+55 illustrated plates. £2 10s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1965.

The Man They Wouldn't Let Die. By Alexander Dorozynski. (Pp. 207+xii; illustrated. 25s.) London: Secker & Warburg. 1965.

The Neuroendocrine Control of Adaptation. By K. Lissak and E. Endroczi. (Pp. 180+xii; illustrated. 70s.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

Experimental Epilepsy. Progress in Brain Research. Vol. 19. By A. Kreindler. (Pp. 213. 75s.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier. 1965.

Ionizing Radiations. By J. S. Strettan, M.A., M.Sc. (Pp. 180+viii; illustrated. 20s.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, New York, Paris, and Frankfurt: Pergamon. 1965.

The Essentials of Roentgen Interpretation. 2nd edition. By Lester W. Paul, M.D., and John H. Juhl, M.D. (Pp. 902+xxi; illustrated. \$5.00.) New York and London: Hoeber. 1965.

Atlas of the Human Brain. By Donald H. Ford and J. P. Schadé. (Pp. 166; illustrated. 60s.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier. 1966.

Respiratory Care. By H. H. Bendixen, L. D. Egbert, J. Hedley-Whyte, M. B. Laver, and H. Pontopidan. (Pp. 252+xv; illustrated. \$15.00.) Saint Louis, Miss.: C. V. Mosby. 1965.

Comprehensive Biochemistry. Vol. 16. Hydrolytic Reactions; Cobamide and Biotin Co-enzymes. Edited by Professor Marcel Florkin and Professor Elmer H. Stotz. (Pp. 267+xii. 75s.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier. 1965.

Management of the Patient with Cancer. Edited by Thomas F. Nealon, jun., M.D. (Pp. 1,067+xxi; illustrated. £9 12s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders. 1965.

Price's Textbook of the Practice of Medicine. 10th edition. Edited by Sir Ronald Bodley Scott, K.C.V.O., M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 1,259+xiv. 90s.) London, New York, and Bombay: Oxford University Press. 1966.

A Short Textbook of Midwifery. 8th edition. By G. F. Gibberd, C.B.E., M.D.(Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.O.G. (Pp. 495+xi; illustrated. 45s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1965.