

MARCH 1963

URINARY INCONTINENCE IN THE FEMALE

Edited by CURTIS J. LUND, M.D.



CLINICAL OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

A Quarterly Publication

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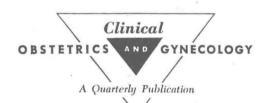
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PUBLISHERS' NOTE

With this issue, Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology marks its fifth birthday. It is a modest anniversary, but after twenty issues it seems worthwhile to take note of past progress and to look forward to the future. When Volume 1, Number 1 appeared in the spring of 1958, we promised to provide a new kind of literature for practitioners in the field, one which would supplement and not duplicate the journals and books already available. The aim, we said, would be to provide a continuing reliable source of information on the procedures and practices used by the experts today at leading treatment centers. The success of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology in achieving this purpose may be measured by the fact that it is one of the three most widely read publications in the field today, with a circulation that has spread around the world.

In the first issue of this quarterly we pointed out that its sole responsibility would be to its subscribers, and we asked you to let us know what you would like to see covered in its pages. At the end of the first year, we sent Charter Subscribers a card on which to enter their comments and suggestions. The number of readers who took the time to fill out and return the cards was so large and the suggestions were so helpful that we have continued the procedure, and these cards have become a lively route of communication between subscriber and publisher. Though it is not possible to acknowledge them individually (in fact, we do not ask anyone to sign his name) we should like to acknowledge here our deep debt to all who have sent in their suggestions. They have had a definite role in shaping the substance of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology.

All suggestions are carefully analyzed and requests for coverage of specific topics tallied, so that symposia can be planned for subjects known to be of most concern to subscribers. One result of this procedure has been a more penetrating analysis of certain subjects than that initially envisaged. In the first issue, for instance—in the symposium on "Management of Endocrine Problems"—there was a single paper on "Diabetes in Pregnancy." Last summer, on the basis of analysis of suggestion cards, an entire symposium of twelve papers was devoted to the care of the pregnant diabetic. In another early issue a single paper covered "Urinary Incontinence," while an entire symposium explores the subject in the current number. For some time now the topics discussed have been selected by the subscribers themselves.

In the more purely mechanical matters of publication the help of readers is also visible. At the suggestion of many subscribers the spine of the book was re-designed to make room for individual titles and volume-and-number notation, thus allowing for quick identification and quick reference to a specific issue. And this year, in response to many requests, we will inaugurate a three-year cumulative index, to appear in the December number. It is clear that these volumes are preserved on the shelf and used for reference in thousands of offices throughout the world. The steady demand for back issues (which, unfortunately, we cannot meet) attests to the long-term value of the series. It is hoped, therefore, that the provision of a long-term index will increase the accessibility of the wealth of information available in these pages and make the books even more useful to subscribers.

Perhaps the most gratifying experience of all has been the enthusiastic cooperation of the Guest Editors and Contributors in preparing their manuscripts to the rigid requirements of the publication. It is to this group of specialists that the ultimate gratitude and credit for the success of the publication should go. The roll of eminent authors appearing in the list of Contributors issue after issue is in itself abundant indication of the significance and reliability of the material appearing inside.

As we mark this anniversary and take note of accomplishments and successes to date we are also aware that *Clinical Obstetrics and Gyne-cology* is still a young publication, that it may still be improved. With the continued cooperation of Authors and Editors, and the continuing advice and suggestions from subscribers, we shall pursue the aim of making the "Yellow Books" steadily more valuable to those whose practice is devoted to the care and treatment of women.

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