



PLATE I

1 and 2. Photograph of the anterior surface and of a cross section of an eclamptic liver. Note that the lesions are predominantly located in the right lobe.

3. Photomicrograph of liver showing extensive periportal hemorrhage.

This patient had a history of hypertension of eight years' duration. Necropsy revealed a massive cerebral hemorrhage in addition to the eclamptic liver.

The Toxemias of Pregnancy

by

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SECOND EDITION

*With Eighty-Five Text Illustrations
And One Color Plate*

The Toxemias of Pregnancy

WILLIAM I. DICKMAN, M.D.

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

I had hoped that by the time this edition was prepared, the cause of eclampsia would be known. Unfortunately the war caused a marked decrease and even cessation of research in most laboratories. Although there are numerous reports since 1940, the number of new facts is disappointingly small. This is also true in other fields. Knowledge in all fields would advance much faster if the research problem could be a concerted study by a number of investigators, several taking the same problem but pooling all results for analysis and study. Much more would be known about preeclampsia-eclampsia if this had been done.

I have attempted to review the reports published since 1940 which might have a bearing on the etiology of preeclampsia-eclampsia. To the casual reader, some of the data mentioned may not seem pertinent, but it may be of value to the investigator. I have not listed all of the references, but a sufficient number of key references are given which will enable anyone interested to find others.

I am indebted to Dr. H. Sheehan, Professor of Pathology of the University of Liverpool, for the description of the pathology in the liver, kidney, and brain in eclampsia, acute yellow atrophy of the liver, chloroform poisoning, and cortical necrosis of the kidney, as well as for suggestions in other chapters. He has permitted use of some illustrations.

Dr. R. Bartholomew has contributed information concerning placental pathology and has permitted use of several illustrations.

I am indebted to the late Dr. Henricus Stander and to Dr. Gordon Douglas, the present chief of the New York Lying-In Hospital, for permission to use data about some of their toxemic patients. The complete report based on these patients will be published from both departments.

Dr. C. Newberger, Consultant to the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, of the Department of Public Health of Illinois, has been very helpful in furnishing statistics for the State of Illinois.

Dr. H. Bundesen and Dr. L. Nadelhoffer, of the Chicago Department of Health, have furnished mortality figures for the City of Chicago.

I expressed my appreciation in Chapter II to the many doctors who contributed statistics or other material concerning their services, methods of treatment, or case reports.

The studies on the toxemic patients and aid in coding have been made in the majority of cases by the following residents: Dr. A. Seski, Dr. C. McCartney, Dr. R. Smither, Dr. E. Horner, Dr. H. Friedman, and Dr. P. Segal. Without their help, much of the investigative work could not have been performed.

Chemical analyses have been made under the supervision of Mr. R. Pottinger. Mr. R. Lundquist assisted in preparing many of the tables and graphs.

Dr. R. Smither has done most of the work in coding the toxemia records and accumulating various data which have been analyzed by Dr. L. Savage and Mrs. L. Rynkiewicz. Dr. H. Priddle assisted in the New York tabulation.

Dr. A. Koff has read several chapters and I am grateful for his criticism.

Miss Helen Kines and Mrs. R. Rosser have been most helpful in preparing the manuscript for publication.

I wish to thank members of the departmental and associate staffs for permission to see and study many of their patients with toxemia of pregnancy.

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Chicago, Ill.

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION

The preparation of this monograph has been stimulated by the advances in knowledge which have been made in medicine, especially in the physiology of nonpregnant and pregnant women during the last fifteen years. These advances are so vast that it is impossible for one person to comprehend all the knowledge concerning obstetrics and gynecology. Eclampsia is not a disease which is limited to the reproductive organs, but involves most, if not all, of the tissues in the body.

Hinselmann's monograph on eclampsia was published in 1924, Kosmak's in 1931, and Stander's review in 1929. Several other short reviews have appeared subsequently. This monograph, to be of any value, had to have certain limits; therefore, I have condensed and discussed the various reports on the toxemias of pregnancy which have been published during the past twelve years. In some instances where it seemed necessary, I have gone back beyond this time. Since it was not possible to cite every reference referred to, the key references given in one of the bibliographies will enable the reader to find the article in question.

I have made summaries wherever possible, basing my opinion on personal work. It is needless to state that the majority of opinions are not always correct. My theories or conclusions are presented with the hope that they will serve to stimulate further interest in eclampsia, and thus investigators may attempt to confirm or refute them. There are so many conflicting theories that it is difficult for a person inexperienced in studying toxemic patients to obtain a clear picture of eclampsia.

This book was written with two objectives in mind: (1) to acquaint the obstetrician with some of the recent contributions on physiology pertaining to obstetrics. (2) To acquaint the investigator, untrained in obstetrics, with some of the physiology and pathology of obstetrics. It will be apparent to even the casual reader that the physiology of pregnancy is almost a virgin field. The problems are innumerable. I have insisted for many years that the ideal method of investigation would be to study the patients before they became pregnant. This, however, is impracticable, but the same patients can be studied after delivery.

I wish to thank Dr. F. L. Adair, Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, for the opportunities to continue my research problems on the toxemias of pregnancy and for the foreword. Sylvia Kramer, Ph.D., is responsible for all of the statistical work and the preparation of the various graphs. I am grateful to Dr. Melbourne Boynton for his valuable assistance in reading this monograph and for his many worthwhile criticisms. Marie Herring has been most helpful in editing and preparing the manuscripts for publication. I am also grateful to the other members of the Department for their valuable criticisms and suggestions. I express my appreciation to the many doctors who have given me tissues or microscopic sections from their toxemic patients.

Chicago, Ill.

WILLIAM J. DIECKMANN

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