

REPORT OF FIRST A.G.M. OF OBSTETRIC GROUP OF S.A.S.P.

by Miss R. Haute, Chairman

This delightful and suitable "comment" by Professor Tobias at the luncheon which brought to an end the proceedings of the Symposium, gave everyone food for thought, prior to the First National Annual General Meeting of the Obstetric Group of the S.A.S.P., which followed on the Saturday afternoon.

By all accounts the Symposium on "The Major Muscle Groups Involved in Pregnancy, Parturition and Post-natal Recovery" was a great success, and a wide interest was shown which was most encouraging.

On the Friday evening, Professor Jean Blair, first chairman of the Physiotherapy Board, opened the proceedings with a short but pertinent speech.

The three presentations by the Panel dealing with the theme of the Symposium were brief in order to meet programme requirements. Dr. van Rooyen, Professor van Dongen and Dr. du Toit presented "multum in parvo", ably condensing their specialised subjects. Many interesting points were raised which precipitated lively discussion, regretfully cut short by the old enemy — Time. The proceedings were skilfully handled by the Chairman, Dr. E. A. Strasheim with a delightfully light touch and an ability to draw and hold ideas together.

Cape Town's Dr. Peter Baillie followed with a talk outlining methods of controlling "multi-foetal" pregnancies and some of the difficulties encountered en route. Clearly work in this field has opened new horizons in obstetrics which will need the careful attention of obstetric physiotherapists.

Perhaps the most remarkable event of the Symposium was the "happening" at the Saturday morning Workshop, in which Professor Allan of the Anatomy depart-

ment of Wits University had undertaken to prepare specially dissected specimens relevant to the theme of the Symposium. No less than 91 members of the S.A.S.P. enrolled! This slowed down the demonstrations, and it was decided to scrap the Exercise Workshop in favour of carrying the Anatomy discussion to a conclusion (which of course it didn't!) The most promising aspect perhaps was Prof. Allan's willingness to continue the work in the future in the form of properly controlled projects, and the new committee will be investigating the possibility of this offer in the near future. A continuance of this basic type of revision and discussion would ensure a more positive result from the proposed Exercise Workshop, and therefore, although it remains a principal objective of the Association, this work might, of necessity, be set aside for the time being.

At the A.G.M. Mrs. Audrey McFarlane announced that she would be unable to continue as Chairman of the Obstetric Group as she is guiding the new school of physiotherapy at Ga-Rankuwa through its initial stages. In this we wish her every success.

The name "Group" was changed to "Association", and the newly elected committee is as follows:

Chairman: Miss Rosemary Harte, Johannesburg
Vice-chair: Mrs. Louise Hack, Pretoria
Secretary: Mrs. Brenda Kastell, Johannesburg
Treasurer: Mrs. Pietrou van Rooyen, Pretoria
Committee: Mrs. Beryl Chantler, Pretoria
Mrs. Frances Glauber, Johannesburg
Mrs. Audrey McFarlane, Pretoria
Mrs. Gillian Oosthuizen, Pretoria