

the disease is a hopelessly incurable one), because many of the worst offenders, I am sorry to say, are medical men, and otherwise most estimable and lovable in every way. It is my duty to attend the meetings above referred to, and if I do not come they at once say, "Why is he not here?" But, although I put on my oldest coat and do all I can to get the smell out of it when I come home, there still remains so much of the horrible cigarette smell that my best Sunday coat, hanging at the other end of the clothes-closet, becomes contaminated with it, and, instead of enjoying the "quiet splendour of the Sabbath morn" during the whole of the service, my feelings and sometimes my stomach is stirred up by the souvenir of my sufferings.

Please do what you can to mitigate the evil and earn the gratitude of many who, like myself, might sign themselves

"A SUFFERER."

Book Reviews.

Physical Diagnosis in Obstetrics. By Edward A. Ayers, M.D., Prof. of Obstetrics in the New York Polyclinic; Attending Physician to the Mothers' and Babies' Hospital. Published by E. B. Treat & Co., 241 and 243 West 23rd Street, New York City. Price \$2.00.

This work is an entirely new departure in midwifery, and a student capable of taking and appreciating all the points in the history that is required to be taken in each case could only lack one thing to make him a perfect obstetrician, and that is long experience. Every practitioner should read it, for there are many points which are vitally necessary for the safe conduct of labour emphasized which are only too often lightly passed over in general practice.

It is generally agreed on, by those in a position to be in possession of facts, that more women die in private practice than in a well-conducted maternity, and the reason is not far to seek. In private practice all the history demanded in this work would be difficult often to obtain and would be most irksome to the busy general practitioner, but in this we see a sign of the times that midwifery, although one of the last, is nevertheless developing into a special branch requiring special knowledge. It will not be very long until the public will demand the best and be prepared to pay better for it, the reason probably that midwifery has so long been left to its fate in all kinds of hands.

Every practitioner who does not desire to fall behind in the race should procure a copy and study it conscientiously.

H. L. R.