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Book Review

Artificial Insemination in the Human

A. M. C. M. Schellen, M.D.
(Translated by Miss M. E. Hollander)

Review by
GERALD KELLY, S.J.

This book defies reviewing in the strict sense of the word. It is encyclopedic in scope—covering practically every conceivable aspect of artificial insemination, and covering each aspect thoroughly. It gives the history of the artificial-insemination movement, all the needed definitions, the methods of examination, the methods of effecting insemination, public opinion and laws in various countries, and the religious, moral, and professional views on the practice. Dr. Schellen has not only visited various countries in order to know the practical and clinical problems and solutions; he has also covered a vast range of literature and thoroughly digested it. Readers of *THE LINACRE QUARTERLY* will be pleased to note that many of its articles are included in his citations and have had a

definite influence on his conclusions.

The author is very firmly opposed to insemination of an unmarried woman. This, he says, "is nothing but a monstrosity." And, for a variety of reasons that are well explained and well defended, he opposes donor insemination of a married woman. His attitude on homologous insemination is not so clearly expressed; but one can safely say, at the minimum, that he is not enthusiastic about it. The general impression I gather from the book is that his conclusions would be very much the same as those that have been expressed more than once in these pages.

Anyone who is interested in the topic of artificial insemination should read Doctor Schellen's book. It is a truly monumental work.

Artificial Insemination in the Human

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