

BOOK REVIEWS

Endotracheal Anaesthesia. By NOEL A. GILLESPIE, M.D.; Associate Professor of Anaesthesia in the University of Wisconsin. ed. 2. Price \$4.00. Pp. 225. Figures 56. Madison, Wisconsin, The University of Wisconsin Press, 1948.

The author's intention for this monograph is clearly stated in the preface to this, the second edition. The book is, "to be a sound clinical guide to the beginner in the administration of endotracheal anesthesia; and to provide more experienced workers with a volume which can serve as a convenient and efficient index to the original papers on the subject."

In pursuing this aim, the history, advantages, technic, and applications of endotracheal anesthesia are combined from original source material into an admirably complete and well organized work. One of the few deficiencies appears to be the application of this technic in pediatric anesthesia.

Without doubt, this is one of the most readable medical volumes available. Although the text can be completed at one sitting, one is impressed by the number of small details considered. Other medical writings could well use this book as an example, for it is concise and complete, yet interesting.

Illustrations are well chosen to complement the message of the text. Extensive references supplement each chapter and additional works of possible use are listed in a terminal bibliography.

This second edition is characterized not as much by complete revision as by a general expansion of the text and references. This book can be recommended without reservation.

BENTON D. KING, M.D.

Fundamental Considerations in Anesthesia. By CHARLES L. BURSTEIN, Chief, Department of Anesthesiology, Hospital for Special Surgery; Attending Consultant in Anesthesia, Veterans Administration Hospital, Bronx, N. Y.; Assisant Visiting Anesthetist, Bellevue Hospital; Instructor in Anesthesia, New York University College of Medicine. Price \$4.00. Pp. 153. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1949.

This small volume contains a fund of information concerning the basic principles in pharmacology, physiology and physio-pathology and their significance in every day clinical anesthesia. It is written in a clear, concise form and much of the material is new or sheds new light on older concepts. Most of the material deals with the physio-pathology of the autonomic nervous system, the respiratory system and the circulation under various types of anesthesia.

The author is to be particularly commended for the way in which he has correlated the experimental with the clinical. In addition, he outlines various therapeutic measures necessary to combat the untoward effects that may occur during anesthesia and gives the reasons for them. With the current interest in stellate ganglion block for a variety of conditions it would have seemed appropriate if the author had taken up this phase of the autonomic nervous system in some detail. The volume contains fifteen chapters and at the end of each is a list of pertinent references.

Doctor Burstein is to be complimented on this excellent piece of work and his book should be a valuable addition to the library of both the clinical anesthesiologist and the experimental worker.

R. CHARLES ADAMS, M. D.