

## BOOK REVIEW

*Physiologic Therapy in Respiratory Diseases.* By ALVAN L. BARACH, M.D.: Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons; Assistant Attending Physician, Presbyterian Hospital, New York. Fabrikoid, Price \$9.00. Pp. 408 and 74 illustrations. Ed. 2. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Co., 1948.

This book is a new, revised, enlarged and rewritten edition of Principles and Practices of Inhalational Therapy (Lippincott, 1944. Pp. 315 and 59 illustrations). The aim of the book is to present the principles and the practices of physiologic therapy in respiratory disease. The author points out in the preface that deficient respiratory function was at first treated by the inhalation of oxygen. The management today of the more complex functional disturbances within the respiratory tract involves the use of a variety of physical procedures, and antibiotic therapy, allergically directed treatment and the defective employment of appropriate drugs.

Physiologic Therapy in Respiratory Diseases includes the Principles and Practices of Inhalational Therapy. In addition, other therapeutic measures are included which have specific value in counteracting clinical disorders of breathing. Inclusion of the additional therapeutic measure enhances the usefulness of this new edition.

The book contains 29 chapters—one

on the therapeutic use of gases and 20 on clinical entities, such as pneumonia, bronchial asthma, bronchiectasis, and so forth. Each clinical entity is treated from the standpoint of definition or introduction, pathologic physiology, and physiologic therapy. Four chapters are devoted to methods of physiologic therapy and care of equipment: one on anesthesia and anoxia, one on oxygen poisoning, one on oxygen analyzers and one chapter on a method for analyzing oxygen and carbon dioxide concentration in oxygen therapy equipment.

Compared with the previous edition, the general outline of the new edition is the same. There is some rearrangement of chapter headings, including deletion of several chapter headings from the first edition. The subjects of bronchial asthma and anoxia have been greatly enlarged. Anoxia is treated in much more detail and is a valuable addition to the book. The therapeutic use of gases, positive pressure, alternating pressure, equalizing chest pressure, and aerosols are treated essentially as in the first edition.

In Physiologic Therapy in Respiratory Disease, Dr. Barach presents the most recent developments in the field. The book is well written and indexed. Extensive bibliographies are included with each chapter. The quality of the print and paper is very good. This book should be available to every individual who treats respiratory disease.

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