

BOOK REVIEWS

The Comparative Anatomy and Physiology of the Larynx. By V. E. NEGUS, M.D. With a foreword by Arthur Keith. Cloth, \$6.50. Pp. 230, with 191 illustrations. New York, Grune & Stratton, Inc., 1949.

Dr. Negus is one of the foremost men in the field of laryngology. His previous book, a ponderous volume, has been condensed and modernized in this smaller edition. The photographs and drawings, however, have been increased rather than decreased. This is an invaluable book by an author of outstanding abilities.

A comprehensive comparison of the larynx of man to that of the lower forms of animal life is given. The reader finds that the laryngocele of man is comparable to the ventricular air sacs of animals and also that the larynx of lower animals is not nearly as tilted as in man. Since the human embryo goes through some of the lower forms of life and may be arrested anywhere in its development, the practical application of comparative studies can be seen. The degeneration of parts of the larynx for use by man and its advantages and disadvantages in respiration and phonation are discussed thoroughly. For instance, the deer, a swift animal, respire through a less obstructed system than man, a comparatively slow animal. A discussion of the human larynx is given in the latter chapters of the book, and the anatomy and physiology of this important organ are discussed.

The diagrams and photographs are plentiful and well displayed. There is no attempt to confuse the reader with numerous labels on each figure.

Except for passages in which the author necessarily must use technical descriptions, this book is easily readable. The paper used is overly glossy and reflects too much light in almost any position.

For the anesthesiologist, laryngologist and those interested in the larynx, both from the standpoint of respiration and phonation, this book offers numerous advantages for interesting study and thought.

ROBERT BRAZY, M.D.

Anesthesia in Dental Surgery. By STERLING V. MEAD, D.D.S., M.D. Cloth, Price \$12.50. Pp. 648 and 224 illustrations. Ed. 2. St. Louis, C. Mosby Company, 1951.

This book by a former President of the American Dental Association not only is a text and reference work presented in accurate, scientific language understood by the dentist, but serves as a bridge between the cloistered physician anesthetist and the dental surgeon who frequently calls upon him for assistance.

The requirements of dental surgery cannot be compared with the needs of general surgery of the abdomen, thorax, brain or heart. For the patient who is to undergo a general surgical procedure the requirements of time, cost and postoperative effects of anesthesia are not of primary concern. The fact that the anesthetist exists for the benefit and at the call of the patient is often obscured in the habit of compliance with the apparent requirements of the operative procedure.

Regardless of the pathologic condition involved, the public considers