

General anesthesia is covered in the last 8 pages and is presented in such a manner as to familiarize the ophthalmologist with the possibilities presented by general anesthesia in order that he may consult more intelligently with the anesthesiologist. Perhaps the greatest merit of this section is that it does not attempt to provide specific indications and contraindications for various general anesthetic agents and techniques but rather leaves these decisions to the anesthesiologist.

This monograph on local and regional procedures is recommended reading not only for ophthalmologists but also for anesthesiologists who thereby may have a better understanding of the possibilities presented by these techniques with or without the addition of general anesthesia.

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**Anesthesia in General Practice.** By STUART C. CULLEN, M.D. Fourth Edition. \$5. Pp. 312, with 37 illustrations. Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 E. Illinois St., Chicago 11, 1954.

This is the fourth edition of a text which was first published in 1946. Originally designed as a teaching manual for medical students, this book is aimed also at the part-time anesthetist and others who may be called upon to care for respiratory emergencies, hypoxia, and shock. As such, little stress is placed on the technical aspects of anesthesiology "because it is felt that a more satisfactory solution of anesthesiologic problems can be obtained by the reader if the emphasis is placed on establishing a basis for a rational approach to these problems" (Preface, page 12). This purpose is admirably fulfilled in clear and concise language. Few words are wasted and some of the most important points are covered by a single sentence. The reader is repeatedly referred to other sources of information for technical details. The bibliography is small (except on muscle relaxants) but well chosen.

There are those who might disagree with the arrangement and sequence of subject matter. For example, muscle relaxants and barbiturates are discussed under inhalation agents, and the signs of anesthesia are presented near the end of the book. On the other hand, one might find it difficult to suggest a better arrangement. Likewise some may object to concepts set forth by Dr. Cullen, but controversial points are few and always handled from the viewpoint of sound physiology rather than by dogmatic statements.

The physical characteristics of the book are excellent. The type is large and the illustrations are quite clear and located very appropriately in relationship to the text. An unusual feature is the use of cartoons which provide excellent illustrations of the management of reactions to local anesthetic drugs.

This fourth edition contains a good discussion of ventilation and touches briefly on controlled hypotension and hypothermia. In addition, the section on muscle relaxants has been expanded. Notable by its absence is a discussion of "cardiac arrest" and its management, yet the tenor of the entire book is that of emphasis upon principles which will tend to prevent this catastrophe.

This small volume fulfills the objectives of the author in providing an excellent source of information on the basic practice of anesthesia and, as such, is highly recommended for medical students or physicians who are attracted to anesthesia. It is not a "cook-book" whose reading might encourage a general practitioner to become a dangerous anesthetist.

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**The Development of Medical Bibliography.** By ESTELLE BRODMAN, Assistant Librarian for Reference Services, Armed Forces Medical Library, Washington, D. C. Medical Library Association, publication No. 1. Cloth \$5. Pp. 226, with 11 illustrations. Archives Curator, Medical & Chirurgical Faculty of State of Maryland, Baltimore 1, 1954.

This is an interesting little book written by the Assistant Librarian for Reference Services of the Armed Forces Medical Library. Her intention is to present a chrono-