

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.

THOMAS K. LAMMERT, M.D.

**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.

DAVID A. DAVIS, M.D.

**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-

logical interpretation of the history of medical bibliography, an important subject and one too generally ignored. She succeeds in doing this in a duodecimo volume of only 226 pages, and yet at the same time discusses entertaining corollary issues, such as, for example, the similarity of early printing to manuscript and the reason for this, the development of bedside teaching and the use of case reports (Herman Boerhaave, circa 1700), and descriptions of bibliographies indexed by given name rather than by surname (as late as 1667). By pointing out the problems of medical bibliography through the centuries the author gives a contemporaneous air to her book.

The text should be of particular interest to students of medical history, not only because it gives a history of medical bibliography, but also because of its constant reference to certain broad aspects in the development of medicine and its many brief bibliographies. To individuals engaged in or contemplating the compilation of a bibliography this book should be preliminary reading. It describes the development of our contemporary catalogs and lists: the Index Catalog of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, Index Medicus, Current List of Medical Literature, Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus, Excerpta Medica, and others. Machine methods as a possibility in aiding the worker are discussed. Footnotes add additional details and all references are completely cited. At the end of the book there is appended a list consisting of all the printed bibliographies and indexes to the general medical literature which the author was able to locate.

Because the book discusses the general medical bibliography, it should provide a basis for compiling a bibliography limited to any one of the specialties.

SANFORD KRONENBERG, M.D.

**Die Narkose: Ein Lehr und Handbuch.** VON PROF. DR. H. KILLIAN UND PROF. DR. H. WESE. Second Edition. Cloth \$40.50. Pp. 1003, with 412 illustrations. Georg Thieme Verlag, Herdweg 63, (14a) Stuttgart, Germany, 1954.

This comprehensive volume, written in German, may serve both as a text and a reference book for practicing anesthesiologists. Both clinical and basic science aspects of the field are included, as well as correlation of anesthesiology with pre-existing pathology and operative procedures. Throughout the book emphasis is placed on the basic science approach including descriptions of alterations produced in the human mechanism during anesthesia and surgery and the reasons for their occurrence. Anesthetic agents, methods, equipment, special techniques, new drugs, complications, resuscitation, and inhalation therapy are competently discussed.

This textbook is profusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams, and tables. There are many references to the literature. The book is well made, with good paper and clear illustrations. For those who read German, this volume is a valuable addition to a reference library.

JAY JACOBY, M.D.

**Atlas de chirurgie thyroïdienne.** PAR JACQUES FRANCILLON, chirurgien des hôpitaux de Lyon, ET CLAUDE GABRIELLE, médecin des hôpitaux, de Lyon. Lyons, France. Cloth 300 francs. Pp. 182, with 134 illustrations by Dr. C. Millet. Expansion scientifique française, 15, Rue Saint-Benoit, Paris 6e, France, 1955.

This volume is one of the numerous surgical outlines which have appeared during the past few years and provides a pictorial analysis of each phase of thyroid surgery as conducted in the authors' practices. The illustrations, which of course form the main bulk of the book, are mechanical rather than photographic in style; they serve to emphasize the fundamental anatomical facts. The text has been planned to supplement rather than to complement the accompanying illustrations.

From the viewpoint of the anesthesiologist, certain of the illustrations may be of interest, particularly those depicting the anatomy of the larynx, the nerve supply of the thyroid gland and the larynx, and the position of the larynx and the trachea with the patient in the various operative postures. There is also, perhaps, an advantage in having