

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 1607). 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 biographies. 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. WEESSE. 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 FRANÇILLON, chirurgien des hôpitaux de Lyon, ET CLAUDE GABRIELLE, interne 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

the anesthesiologist understand the step-by-step procedure of such a common operation as thyroidectomy, although probably not in such detail as presented in this volume. On the whole, however, there is little to interest the anesthesiologist in this atlas; anesthetic techniques are not depicted. It is an atlas devoted entirely to surgical technique, and as such will find a place in few anesthetic libraries.

DAVID M. LITTLE, JR., M.D.

Anoxia of the Newborn Infant (A Symposium). Edited by KENNETH W. CROSS, MARCEL LELONG, CLEMENT A. SMITH, J. F. DELAFRESNAYE, AND T. E. OPPÉ. \$5.50. Pp. 230, with 86 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 E. Lawrence Ave., Springfield, Ill.; Blackwell Scientific Publications, 24-25 Broad St., Oxford, England; Ryerson Press, 299 Queen St., W., Toronto 2B, Canada, 1953.

This symposium, organized by the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences, includes the written contributions of 17 participants from 8 countries, together with the discussions of each paper.

As stated in the introduction, "The object of each article was to serve as a personal contribution on some definite clinical or laboratory aspect of the subject, chosen by the author, to be compared with the works of others engaged in the same field of research. The object of the discussion was to attempt to separate, from among the data presented and the explanations suggested, those which seemed acceptable to all."

The articles are arranged under five headings: Clinical, Histological and Pathological, Biochemical, Physiopathological, and Therapeutic Considerations. A section at the end summarizes the general conclusions of the participants.

Clear figures and illustrations, easy-to-read print, and paper of excellent quality are characteristics of this book. Bibliographies, for the most part, are ample for a publication of this type, and an adequate index is provided. A misprint occurs in table V, page 90, where the number "18" appears as "81."

The subject matter is treated with refreshing objectivity, emphasizing personal observations and experiences, and clearly indicating certain controversial aspects. Unusual prominence is given to such matters as the newborn's tolerance of anoxia; the anoxic threat during cesarean section; the relationship between amniotic fluid aspiration and anoxia and "hyaline membrane"; the physiological significance and efficacy of apneustic, periodic, and gasping respiration; the significance of chemoreceptors; and the inter-relationship of respiratory and circulatory functions in the newborn infant. None of the participants made any reference to the relationship between the use of high concentrations of oxygen and the incidence of retrolental fibroplasia in premature infants, although the possibility of "oxygen poisoning" is mentioned, with a plea for more exact control of oxygen in incubators, "in the belief that concentrations of 50 per cent are not only safe but effective."

Anesthesiologists, obstetricians, pediatricians, and other physicians whose responsibilities include the care of newborn infants would derive considerable benefit from reading this symposium.

JOHN R. LINCOLN, M.D.

Spinal Epidural Analgesia. By P. R. BROMAGE, M.B., B.S., F.F.A.R.C.S., Consultant Anaesthetist, Chichester Hospitals Group, Chichester, West Sussex, England. Cloth \$3.75. Pp. 123, with 41 illustrations. Williams & Wilkins Company, Mount Royal and Guilford Aves., Baltimore 2, 1954.

This small book offers a comprehensive discussion of epidural analgesia, based upon thorough study of previous work with the method, understanding of the anatomical structures and physiologic principles involved, and the author's large experience of 1,000 administrations over a period of five years. The procedure is presented as, "... a simple, safe, and effective method, having certain definite advantages over current re-