

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. OPPE. \$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 interrelationship 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 Anesthetist, 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-