

hemolytic disease of the newborn owing to the presence of antibodies of the Rhesus system, to describe other applications of studies of blood group systems to human welfare. Some of these have immediate and practical importance, such as in the identification of blood stains or in cases of controversial paternity. More remote applications influence the sciences of anthropology, ethnology, and human genetics.

This book is recommended for the anesthesiologists, particularly those who do not assume the responsibilities of a blood bank. A better insight into the reasons for the occurrence of incompatible blood transfusion reactions will be gained with the first reading, and, for a book of its size, its place in his library will serve remarkably well as a simple reference. The physician who runs his own blood bank will find biological and genetic considerations of interest, but will require a more detailed reference, such as "Technical Methods and Procedures of the American Association of Blood Banks."

JOHN R. LINCOLN, M.D.

Intravenous Anesthesia in Dentistry. By S. L. DRUMMOND-JACKSON. Cloth \$4.50. Pp. 152. Staples Press, Ltd., Mandeville Place, London W 1, 1952. (John de Graff, Inc., 31 E. Tenth St., New York 3.)

This textbook is primarily of interest to the dental profession but may also be used with benefit by the physician anesthesiologist. It is based upon the experience gained by the author during the administration of anesthesia for 20,000 office dental procedures.

The author's main intention is to draw to the attention of the dental and medical professions a technique of balanced anesthesia (thiopental and nitrous oxide) which he feels promotes safety, comfort, and rapid convalescence of the office dental patient, and also is convenient for the dental surgeon. A secondary purpose is to stress the role which he feels dentists should play in the administration of office anesthesia.

The subject matter of this volume consists of a detailed description of light, balanced office dental anesthesia conducted chiefly with intravenous thiopental sodium and occasionally supplemented with nitrous oxide inhalation anesthesia. Various aspects of this subject are considered, such as advantages and disadvantages, risks, pharmacology of the agents utilized, equipment, technique, and other opinions. Brief reference is made to the use of intravenous Evipal sodium for office anesthesia.

The text contains many repetitions. It might easily have been reduced in length without loss of context. The most valuable feature of this book is the author's emphasis upon careful attention to details and preparation of the patient for anesthesia, as well as the preoperative and postoperative handling of the patient by the anesthetist. The author apparently obtains full confidence and cooperation of his patients before induction of anesthesia. He stresses the importance of a slow induction and the use of minimal dosages of thiopental sodium. An impressive series of cases is discussed but very little space is devoted to the complications encountered.

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Chest Diseases. Section XV. *Excerpta Medica*—The International Medical Abstracting Service. Published monthly by *Excerpta Medica, N.V.*, 111 Kalverstraat, Amsterdam C. (The Netherlands), Chief Editors: M. W. WOERDMAN, M. FISHERIN and SIR HENRIAGE OGLVIE. Edited in cooperation with the American College of Chest Physicians.

Abstracts in this periodical, now in its tenth year of publication, cover the world's medical literature and are grouped according to subject matter. The major classification is anatomical and includes: respiratory diseases, cardiovascular affections, diseases of the chest-wall and diaphragm, diseases of the mediastinum and diseases of the esophagus. In addition to a subgroup devoted to respiratory tuberculosis, there are two further groups concerned with tuberculosis of other organs, and general aspects of tuberculosis. A table of contents is given on the inside front cover, and an author index appears at the end of each issue. The abstracts include author, full title in original language and in