

Reading the book may enhance the physician's understanding of the patient facing an unknown and, to him, terrifying experience. Some readers may find the emotional overtones painfully bare.

ROBERT T. PATRICK, M.D.

Die Lachgas-Analgesie in der Zahnärztlichen Praxis (Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen Analgesia in Dental Practice). First Edition. By DR. MED. DENT. PAUL VONOW (Zurich). Cloth \$6.50. Pp. 152, with 57 illustrations. Published by Medizinischer Verlag Hans Huber, Bern and Stuttgart, 1956. (Intercontinental Medical Book Corporation, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.)

The author, a Swiss dentist, has been interested for many years in the production of safe and reliable nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia. He used this technique in over 10,000 patients. This monograph on nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia is based mainly on his own experiences, but whenever necessary, he has drawn freely on the experimental findings and clinical observations of others. It is intended primarily to serve as a guide for the practicing dentist in the theory and clinical application of nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia. The author emphasizes the basic differences between nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia and anesthesia, and points out that in the former, consciousness although affected, is always maintained. According to the author, the analgesic state is characterized by "quietness, relaxation, and little or no reaction to pain."

The history of dental analgesia, the pharmacological basis and clinical application of nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, and the construction, safety, and usefulness of various types of apparatus for dental anesthesia are discussed in detail. There is an excellent description of the signs and symptoms of nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, and a clear summary of the classical studies of Persson on the analgesic effects of various nitrous oxide-oxygen mixtures. The author also describes his own experimental results on the analgesic effects of various nitrous oxide-oxygen-air mixtures. Since the volume of air added to the measured amounts of nitrous oxide and oxygen is not specified, the nitrous oxide concentrations of the gas mixtures used cannot be determined. For this reason, these experiments have no theoretical significance, and are only useful from the practical point of view if the Dräger "Marius" anesthesia machine used by the author is employed.

This book is well written and illustrated. It contains much useful information on the safe and efficient application of nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia in dentistry. Although it has been written primarily for dentists, this monograph will also be useful to others interested in problems relevant to the analgesic state.

FRANCIS F. FOLDES, M.D.

Hypnography: A Study in the Therapeutic Use of Hypnotic Painting. By AINSLIE MEARES, MBBS., B.Agr.Sc., DPM. Psychiatrist, Melbourne, Australia. Cloth \$7.75. Pp. 271, with 213 illustrations. Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, 1957.

This volume presents a clinical study of the therapeutic use of hypnotic painting. The material is obtained almost entirely from the author's private practice of psychiatry. He presents his experiences in the hope that more psychiatrists will investigate this form of therapy.

Dr. Meares explains that traditionally medical hypnosis is employed for the removal of symptoms by hypnotic suggestion, and following the technique of Bernheim is an extremely authoritative form of treatment. Prestige and authority are used to master the patient in hypnosis and then the symptoms are dispelled by command. Freud used this technique early in his career, but soon preferred to have his patients recall past memories by free association when awake. From this he formulated his ideas of psychoanalysis. Since World War II there has been interest shown in reducing the cost and time involved in psychoanalysis, and therefore a return to hypnosis by analytically trained psychiatrists. The latter, however, have evolved new passive techniques as opposed to authoritative forms for the induction of hypnosis. In place of symptom