

removal by suggestion, therapy is based on insight. This type of treatment has become known as hypnoanalysis, and succeeds because of the hypnotized patient's acknowledgment of repressed conflicts.

The author takes credit for the origin of hypnography. One of his patients when deeply hypnotized picked up a pencil by chance and began to draw. It was found after considerable questioning of the patient while still hypnotized that these drawings revealed conflicts that had not been aired by verbal hypno-analysis. It was tried on other patients and eventually a technique was standardized in which the patient projects his psychic material by painting in black paint on white paper, and while still hypnotized, his associations to the objects he has painted are obtained. The black paint was found most satisfactory since hypnotized patients hold a pencil or crayon so loosely it is difficult to draw. It was also found that color means little to the hypnotized patient and that drawing ability makes little difference in the type of drawing produced.

There are several chapters devoted to suggestions by the author in the preliminaries to and induction of hypnosis, the technique of hypnography, descriptions and interpretations of drawings, and there are over a hundred pages devoted to excerpts from case histories.

The book is well printed and illustrated and includes a list of papers by the author relating to medical hypnosis. In my opinion, it is a book the contents of which are entirely within the field of psychiatry and has no bearing on forms of medical hypnosis being used as anesthesia or as adjuncts to anesthesia.

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**Stosowanie podtlenku azotu do celów znieczulenia chirurgicznego.** (Monograph on Nitrous Oxide and Its Uses in Surgery.) DOC. DR. MIECZYSLAW JUSTYNA, Warsaw, Poland. Pp. 84, with 12 illustrations. Paper. Published by the Ministry of Health, Central Division of Drugs, Medical Division, Warsaw, Poland, 1956.

This 84 page monograph presents in adequate detail the physical, chemical and pharmacologic properties of nitrous oxide and its anesthetic uses. The main portion of the booklet is devoted to the technique of administration of nitrous oxide as an analgesic alone and in combination with opiates, barbiturates, the various gases and the combination of opiate-antagonist. This monograph is well written and describes present uses of nitrous oxide but does not add anything new to present-day literature.

JOHN T. GENCZKO, M.D.

**Nursing Care of the Surgical Patient.** Sixth Edition. BY JOHN PETTIT WEST, M.D., Attending Surgeon, St. Luke's Hospital, New York, MANELVA WYLIE KELLER, B.S., R.N., formerly Chief Operating Room Nurse at St. Luke's Hospital, and ELIZABETH H. HARMON, M.A., R.N., Director of Nursing Service and School of Nursing, New Britain General Hospital, New Britain, Connecticut. Cloth \$5.75. Pp. 606, with 116 illustrations. The Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, 1957.

The competency of an anesthesiologist to comment on a textbook relating to nursing care of the surgical patient is open to question. However, he can review the sections in which he has a direct interest.

The preoperative care of the patient is handled well. Emphasis is placed on the role of the nurse in combatting fear and apprehension in the patient. Certainly she can play a most important part by relieving some of the "fears of the unknown."

The chapter on anesthesia is adequate, although suffering in one or two places from a carry-over from previous editions of the book. For example, thiopental sodium is rarely used in 5 per cent solution, as suggested, nor is ethyl chloride on many anesthetic shelves today. Another paragraph or two on muscle relaxant drugs might help to answer many questions which we receive from nurses regarding these drugs.

In the chapter on operating room nursing there is a good section on explosive hazards in relation to anesthesia. The necessity for stringent precautions is explained concisely but clearly.