

THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S BOOKSHELF

HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D., *Editor*

The Respiratory Muscles and the Mechanics of Breathing. By E. J. MORAN CAMPBELL, M.D., PH.D., B.Sc. (LOND.), M.R.C.P. (LOND.) Assistant, Department of Medicine, Middlesex Hospital. Cloth \$4.25. Pp. 131 with 32 illustrations. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 E. Illinois St., Chicago, 1958.

Dr. Campbell, an eminently qualified respiratory physiologist, utilizes this precise and well-written monograph to focus attention on a previously neglected facet of the mechanics of breathing. In an orderly fashion he presents the mode of action of the muscles of respiration and categories them as to their relative importance under varying states of ventilatory activity. Many of his conclusions are drawn from his own investigations utilizing electromyography. A 17 page appendix contains a condensed but excellent discussion of the techniques of electromyography, including a description of the apparatus and the experimental methods employed. The monograph is well-indexed and has a comprehensive bibliography.

This is an excellent book for the reference library of the investigator-anesthesiologist, but the clinical application of the data presented is probably too obscure to interest the strictly clinical anesthetist.

J. GERARD CONVERSE, M.D.

Spinal Anesthesia. By JOHN B. DILLON, M.D. Publication No. 326 of American Lecture Series. Fabricoid \$3.00. Pp. 61, with 10 figures. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1958.

This monograph must be read and interpreted in the light of its purposes, as expressed by the author, a well-known figure in the field of anesthesiology. It is designed to furnish assistance to "the physician who performs spinal anesthesia, but who has had neither the time nor the opportunity to explore some of its facets." For residents, it is designed to stimulate further inquiry into the "many phases of spinal anesthesia about which there is still much to learn." The techniques presented are conservative and represent in every way what the author considers safe practice. These purposes are fulfilled in clear and simple terms. Controversial issues are treated fairly. Although some might disagree with the author on a few minor details, one cannot fail to be impressed by the soundness of the principles presented, and the clarity with which they are expressed.

The references appearing at the end of each chapter are not numerous but are adequate for the reader who desires more detailed information.

The format of this monograph is the usual one of the American Lecture Series. There are several errors in spelling, principally in the names of the authors cited in the references. No errors in dosage or in technical direction were noted.

DAVID A. DAVIS, M.D.

Hospital Accreditation References. American Hospital Association, Chicago, Illinois. Paper \$3.25. Pp. 136.

This book gives an excellent outline to be followed in department organization and hospital accreditation. It will be of great aid to all physicians confronted with the above responsibilities. The book is divided into twenty-four chapters which cover: Bylaws; Physical Plant; Governing Body; Dietary Department; Medical Record Department; Pharmacy or Drug Room; Laboratories; Radiology; Medical Library; Medical Social