

New York; Late Registrar and First Assistant, Department of Anaesthesia, Central Middlesex Hospital, London. Cloth. \$4.00. Pp. 128, with 2 figures. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois; Blackwell Scientific Publications, Ltd., 24-25 Broad Street, Oxford, England.

Despite its small size, this book contains a great deal of information that should be of interest to the obstetrician as well as to the anesthesiologist. It presents a concise and lucid discussion of the physiological changes in the pregnant woman, and some of the pathological conditions that may be encountered. How these changes influence the analgetic and anesthetic management of her labor and delivery are dealt with clearly. Supported by sufficient references, it brings up-to-date the facts known about placental function and transmission.

The management of the first stage of labor emphasizes a technique that can be used safely in the domiciliary type of practice that is so common in the United Kingdom. The use of conduction analgesia, so popular in the United States, is not presented enthusiastically by this author. Although one may not agree entirely with the author's suggested management of the various obstetrical situations requiring anesthesia, he does present logical reasons for his selection.

There is a very good, though abbreviated, chapter on the physiological changes in the neonate immediately after delivery, and the management of respiratory disturbances that too frequently occur.

This book is well written and has an adequate bibliography. It achieves its objectives in supplying a much needed British text on obstetrical anesthesia, and in pointing out clearly the many deficiencies in our knowledge of the actions of drugs, especially on the child.

DAVID A. DAVIS, M.D.

**A Textbook of Surgical Physiology.** By R. AINSLIE JAMIESON, M.B., F.R.C.S. Ed., Surgeon, Vale of Leven Hospital, Alexandria, Dumbartonshire and ANDREW W. KAY, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Ed.) F.R.F.P.S.G. Professor of Surgery, University of Sheffield. Cloth. \$11.00. Pp. 623 with 186 illustrations.

The Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore 2, Md., exclusive U. S. agents, 1959.

Anesthesiologists as well as surgeons will find this textbook valuable since it offers, in compact form, information directly related to "those aspects of applied physiology which are fundamental to the practice of general surgery." It is a valuable reference book, encompassing in one volume information which otherwise would require an extensive search of the literature. Discussion of physiology related to clinical surgery and to pathology for the systems and organs of the body are included, except for the central nervous system, ovary, and pituitary. So broad a field necessitates brief treatment, but essential material is well covered.

Excellent paper and clear type make reading this book a pleasant experience. Illustrations include appropriate tables, graphs, drawings, and photographs. References are presented at the end of each chapter and are stated to include only those the authors considered most helpful and authoritative, not all the material which they reviewed.

This book offers a brief, reliable summary of physiology pertinent to surgery. For full discussion of a given subject one would need to consult original articles or more exhaustive texts.

JULIA G. ARROWOOD, M.D.

**Experimental Surgery, Including Surgical Physiology.** By J. MARKOWITZ, M.B.E., M.B. (Tor.), Ph.D., M.S., Prof. of Physiology, University of Toronto; J. ARCHIBALD, D.V.M., M.V. Sc., D.V.M., Prof. and Head of the Division of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, Ontario Veterinary College, and H. G. DOWNIE, D.V.M., M.S., M.V. Sc., Prof. and Head, Department of Physiological Sciences, Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ont. Fourth Edition. Cloth. Pp. 931 with 580 illustrations. \$12.50. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1959.

This is the fourth edition of a popular textbook in experimental surgery which first appeared in 1937, and was previously revised in 1949 and 1954. Although the authors claim

to have extensively revised this present edition, many sections have obviously been reprinted from previous editions, *in toto*. This need not discourage the experimental physiologist from its use, however, since its pages are crowded with many useful facts, illustrations of anatomy and technics, and discussions of problems in physiology.

The book opens with airy discourses on the virtues of good surgical technic, experimental surgery, and a thorough understanding of the pathophysiology underlying the surgical problem. Two brief chapters follow on the horrors of the antivivisection movement and the humanistic approach to the care and feeding of animals.

Chapter IV, on Anesthesia, is one of those neglected in the current revision. Although the anesthetic techniques taught are practicable for small animal surgery, the reference material is never more recent than 1951. A number of dangerous misconceptions are supported, such as the following three: 1) Artificial respiration is rarely used in the human operating room and is unnecessary in human thoracotomy. 2) The best and most useful method of prolonged artificial respiration for operations on the chest, for heart-lung preparations or use on pithed preparations is the Meltzer and Auer method of intratracheal insufflation with a steady current of air at 12 mm. Hg pressure. 3) The organism tolerates a mild degree of cyanosis better than hyperventilation.

Two chapters are devoted to equipment, sutures and instruments, and to surgical exercises. Thereafter are 29 chapters on technical procedures and physiological experiments organized by systems. The parts dealing with the abdominal viscera are especially complete. New chapters on the prostate gland, hypothermia and the central nervous system have been added. An attempt has been made to bring the fast moving fields of vascular surgery and organ transplantation up-to-date. Each topic is generously documented with authoritative references, and the entire text is carefully indexed at the end.

This book is intended for the surgeon, anxious to encompass his field, but it was also written for the student of surgery, both graduate and undergraduate, and will be valued by anyone, whatever his discipline, who is en-

gaged in experimental physiology involving the use of small animals.

DUNCAN A. HOLADAY, M.D.

**Medicina Experimentalis.** International Journal of Experimental Medicine. Vol. 1. No. 1. Editors: R. DOMENJOZ, Bonn; C. H. BEST, Toronto; B. B. BRODIE, Bethesda, Md.; J. CHEYMOL, Paris; L. HEILMEYER, Freiburg i/Br.; A. VANNOTTI, Lausanne. One volume to consist of 6 numbers (two volumes annually). Subscription price per volume is Swiss francs 56.-, postage included. S. Karger Ltd., Publisher; 25, Arnold-Böcklin-Strasse, Basel, Switzerland, 1959.

The aims of this new journal are: to serve as a link between research workers in all countries; to serve as a link between clinicians, physiologists and pharmacologists; to present brief communications, not more than four pages, but containing essential details of the work; and to offer new material with a minimum of delay (three months from submission of a manuscript to publication). Papers are submitted and published in either English, German or French. Each original paper is followed by summaries in the two complementary languages.

The first number of this new journal consists of 68 pages which contains a foreword by J. Cheymol, and ten original and well-illustrated articles. The titles and authors of these articles are: "Über den Einflub von Acetylcholin auf die Kaliumpermeabilität der denerierten Muskelmembran im polarisierten und depolarisierten Zustand" by Von W. Klaus, G. Kuschinsky, H. Lüßmann and E. Muscholl (Mainz); "Topical Blockade of Carbon Angiotaxis by Cortisol" by H. Selye, Y. Lemire and M. Cantin (Montreal); Exposé de résultats expérimentaux concernant certaines propriétés originales de la sérotonine" by H. Laborit, P. Niaussat, B. Broussolle and J. M. Jouany (Paris); "Mastzellreaktion nach Einwirkung von Quarz in isotoner und nicht isotoner Suspension im Intraoperitonealversuch bei der Maus" by R. Rondez, J. R. Rüttner and G. Anders (Zürich); "Diaplacentare Passage und Eigenschaft von Kuhmilch haemagglutinierenden Antikörpern" by E. Berger and R. Bauer (Basel); "Einflub von Iproniazid und von