

anesthesiologists might take issue with Doctor Boba. He does not give his patients premedication; he does not use artificial respiration; he uses as large a dose of thiopental as possible for induction; he does not keep the limbs out of water during cooling; he replaces polyethylene tubing at the end of the operation with metal needles; he treats respiratory acidosis with an increased flow of gas from the machine; he controls rather than prevents coughing and bucking. These are perhaps moot points. Many excellent practical points are presented by the author, and any anesthesiologist or neurosurgeon doing this type of work will find this book of interest.

ROBERT W. VIRTUE, M.D.

Year Book of General Surgery 1960-1961

Series. EDITED BY MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY, B.S., M.D., Professor of Surgery and Chairman, Cora and Webb Mading Department of Surgery, Baylor University College of Medicine; Surgeon-in-Chief, Jefferson Davis Hospital, Houston, Texas; Senior Attending Surgeon, Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas; Chief Consultant in Surgery, Veterans Administration Hospital, Houston, Texas. WITH A SECTION OF ANESTHESIA EDITED BY STUART C. CULLEN, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Anesthesia, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco. Cloth. \$8.00. Pp. 616, with 184 illustrations. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois St., Chicago, 1960.

This compact book is one of fifteen such volumes published annually in the Practical Medicine Series. The editors have chosen from recent literature those articles which they consider to be the most significant. It serves its purpose well. The articles are arranged by subject matter and the name of the classification is carried at the top of each page. The title of the article is in heavy type, and the reference to the original article is in a footnote, providing for easy reference. Each article is abstracted and many have editorial comment emphasizing points made by the author, disagreeing with him or giving references for further study of the topic. These

editorial comments contribute considerably to the value of the book.

Each year, the new edition of this book should be included in the library of every anesthesiologist. Almost one fifth of the pages are devoted entirely to anesthesia in a separate section edited by Doctor Cullen. Some articles primarily present the results of research on animals, some the results of clinical research, and some are included because they present thought-provoking reviews of ever-present problems. In the latter category there are several abstracts of fine papers on neuromuscular blocking agents.

In the section on General Surgery, edited by Doctor DeBakey, there are many subjects of direct interest to the anesthesiologist. There are over 130 pages devoted to surgery of the heart and the great blood vessels, 20 pages on shock, fluids and electrolytes, and other articles involving the use of respirators, operating room deaths, postoperative staphylococcus infections, endocrine response during surgery, and hypnosis. Even the articles which deal with strictly surgical subjects should be of interest and concern to anesthesiologists, since knowledge of the pathology and its preoperative diagnostic problems and treatment profoundly influence the choice and management of anesthesia.

RUTH M. ANDERSON, M.D.

Fundamentals of General Surgery. BY JOHN ARMES GIUS, M.D., D.Sc. (MED), F.A.C.S., Professor of Surgery, College of Medicine, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Cloth. \$12.50. Pp. 720, with 154 illustrations and figures and 23 tables. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois Street, Chicago, 1957.

The avowed purpose of this book is to provide a textbook for the medical school undergraduate that will "set forth in simple terms the considerations that are believed to be fundamental to the study of general surgery, including aspects of physiology and pathology encountered in the patient." In this objective the book succeeds quite admirably; certainly it is better that the texts on general surgery that were available to this reviewer during his own undergraduate days.

The book begins with a chapter on the history of surgery, and then continues with chapters on wound healing, the response of the body to injury, fluid and electrolyte balance, nutritional balance, shock and hemorrhage, surgical infections, burns, the management of tumors, principles of surgical care, the care of the patient in the operating room, and postoperative complications. The last half of the text describes surgical problems and therapy, more or less by anatomical regions: the peritoneum, the upper alimentary canal, the mid-alimentary canal, the lower alimentary canal, the biliary tract, the liver, the pancreas, the spleen, acute surgical conditions of the abdomen, abdominal hernia, abdominal injuries, abdominal conditions of infants and children, head and neck, the thyroid gland, the breast, peripheral vascular disease, fractures, head injuries and chest injuries.

Perhaps because this volume succeeds so well in its avowed purpose to serve the medical student, it will be of limited interest to most anesthesiologists. Residents in training in anesthesiology, or those preparing for examinations in the specialty will find that certain chapters contain a useful review, particularly the chapters on "Fluid and Electrolyte Balance," "Shock and Hemorrhage," "Principles of Surgical Care," "Care of the Patient in the Operating Room," and "Postoperative Complications." Even as reviews, however, these chapters are confined mainly to fundamental considerations—as is only right and proper in a book designed for undergraduate teaching.

DAVID M. LITTLE, JR., M.D.

Management of the Aged Surgical Patient.

By SIDNEY E. ZIFFREN, M.D., Professor of Surgery, State University of Iowa, College of Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa. First Edition. Cloth. \$7.50. Pp. 219, with 30 figures. With Chapters on "Anesthesia" by Stuart C. Cullen, M.D., "Urology" by Rubin H. Flocks, M.D. and a discussion of "The Cardiac and Diabetic Patient Facing Emergency Operation" by Raymond F. Sheets, M.D. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois St., Chicago, 1960.

The author, obviously calling upon a large clinical experience at the University Hospitals of the State University of Iowa, has elected to write fairly extensively on the problems associated with surgical patients over the age of 60. He states early in his introduction—"It is my contention that, within reason, necessary surgery should not be denied a patient because of his age." In this reviewer's mind it is doubtful as to whether the author subsequently defends this thesis adequately, or really defines the term "necessary surgery" as it applies to the aged. However, he does cover a wide range of problems in the surgical patient, and in some instances refers them specifically to the age group under discussion. Particular emphasis is placed, as is proper, on the preoperative preparation of the elderly patient, with especial importance being given to the problem of blood volume deficits, their recognition and treatment. An interesting, although brief chapter on anesthetic management of the aged patient, written by Dr. Stuart Cullen, is included. Even more brief chapters on "Urology," and "The Cardiac and Diabetic Patient Facing Emergency Operation," written by Doctors Flocks and Sheets respectively, are also part of this well-indexed, easily read treatise. The specific value of these latter two chapters escapes the reviewer.

Although this book should probably find a niche in the surgical library, it is doubtful that even Doctor Cullen's chapter will put it on required reading lists of practitioners of anesthesia.

J. G. CONVERSE, M.D.

Metabolic Care of the Surgical Patient.

By FRANCIS D. MOORE, M.D., Moseley Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School; Surgeon-in-Chief, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. Illustrated by Mildred Coddling, A.B., M.A., Surgical Artist, Department of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. Cloth. \$20.00. Pp. 1011 with 143 illustrations. W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia and London, 1959.

The foremost theme of this text, as noted by the author in closing Chapter 49, "is the fact that the responsibility of the surgeon ex-