

use of recovery rooms and immediate post-operative oxygen therapy in England than in the United States.

The binding, paper and printing are excellent. Illustrations are well chosen and excellently reproduced. An adequate index is found at the back of each volume.

Perusal of these books is a richly rewarding experience for any physician, not only because of the wealth of material presented, but also because of the clarity and method of presentation. These books are strongly recommended to all anesthesiologists, and should be in every medical library.

HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

Anaesthetic Accidents. The Complications of General and Regional Anaesthesia. SECOND EDITION. BY V. KEATING, M.B., B.Ch., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S. Consultant Anaesthetist to the Manchester Regional Hospital Board (Burnley and District); formerly Consultant Anaesthetist and Lecturer in Anaesthetics, University College Hospital of the West Indies; Senior Specialist in Anaesthetics, Royal Army Medical Corps. Cloth. \$5.50. Pp. 288, with 14 figures. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 E. Illinois St., Chicago, Ill., 1961.

A compact body of useful knowledge on a vital clinical subject best describes Dr. Keating's work. This book is not long but is comprehensive. All significant anaesthetic complications are presented. Each subject is accompanied by pertinent physiologic and pharmacologic considerations to provide a rational basis for management. One may dispute a number of statements, for example, "sudden circulatory failure is certainly more common in these people [Negroes] than in Europeans." However, the material in general is accurate and well documented.

Subjects are divided into appropriate topics and good organization is evident throughout. Reading is generally easy.

This book is recommended reading for all residents, and the practicing anesthesiologist can profit by its perusal.

VINCENT J. COLLINS, M.D.

A Practice of General Anaesthesia for Neurosurgery. BY ROBERT I. W. BALLANTINE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., Consultant Anaesthetist, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London; with the collaboration of Ian Jackson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., Consultant Anaesthetist, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Foreword by J. E. A. O'Connell, M.S., F.R.C.S., Surgeon in Charge, Department of Neurological Surgery, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Cloth. \$6.50. Pp. 152, with 68 illustrations. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Mass. 1960.

The reluctance of many anesthesiologists to accept responsibility for the care of patients undergoing neurosurgical procedures is often based on inadequate understanding of the central nervous system and lack of an organized plan of approach. This manual provides the opportunity for correction of these deficiencies.

The authors begin with a discussion of problems peculiar to neurosurgery, particularly those of intracranial pressure and cerebral edema. Consideration is given to premedication and to agents and techniques used by the authors in their practice. Their methods are uncomplicated, logically conceived, and demonstrably effective.

Situations calling for controlled hypotension and hypothermia and the methods of applying these techniques are described fully.

Additional sections of the book furnish details of the management of individual diseases (with their potential problems), diagnostic procedures, and operations.

A number of effective drawings and reproductions of anesthesia records clearly illustrate the authors' points. The index and bibliography appear to be more than adequate.

It is apparent that the authors have experienced the problems described and have carefully conceived and used their methods. They impress the reader with the necessity for attention to seemingly minute details, and the desirability of an attitude of common sense toward a difficult phase of the practice of anesthesiology.

ROBERT T. PATRICK, M.D.