

The first nine chapters of the book deal primarily with things legal. A close inspection of the lawyer, judge and jury and their integrated responsibilities and duties to the law and to the public is followed by a discussion of legislative and judicial law and the mechanics of the instigation and litigation of a hypothetical malpractice action. Of particular interest to the physician should be the chapters on *Res Ipsa Loquitur*, Statute of Limitations and Liability of Hospitals. These topics are treated in a clear and concise manner and the latest thinking on the subjects by both professions is presented.

While this volume is largely flavored from the legal standpoint, there is sufficient reference by both implication as well as example, to the general area of medico-legal problems as would warrant a worthwhile perusal by the general physician, and more particularly those engaged in the practice of neurosurgery, orthopedics, radiology and anesthesiology. The book is slanted in great measure toward a philosophical view of some of the basic problems and suggestions for their future solution in the relationship between the medical and legal professions. The appendix contains fourteen representative case summaries of litigation

against physicians, hospitals and their employees. Important legal principles and doctrines applicable to each case are noted.

The book appears to be fairly well bound and the type is large and easily readable. The pages contain unusually wide margins which would seem to be somewhat unnecessary and wasteful, but perhaps was an attempt to provide for rapid scanning of the text.

JOHN D. MURPHY, M.D.

Anesthesia Abstracts—Volume 54. BY JOHN S. LUNDY, M.D., and FLORENCE A. McQUILLEN, R.N. Paper. \$4.00. Pp. 222. Burgess Publishing Co., Minneapolis 15, Minnesota, 1960.

In volume 54 of Anesthesia Abstracts there are some 250 abstracts from 68 journals. The same clarity which has been a feature of previous editions is noticeable here.

For the busy anesthesiologist who does not have the time to peruse the literature as thoroughly as he would wish, these abstracts provide him with a simple method of separating the 'wheat' from the 'chaff' and whet the appetite for complete reference to the more appealing subjects.

RAYMOND F. COURTIN, M.D.