

The Anesthesiologist's Bookshelf

Edited by HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

Nursing Care of the Anaesthetized Patient.

By FRANK WILSON, M.B., B.S., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A., D.C.H., Consultant Anaesthetist to the Burnley and District Group of Hospitals, Lately at Southmead Hospital, Bristol. Paper. \$2.00. Pp. 72, with 36 illustrations. Foreword by William M. Mushin, Professor of Anaesthetics, Welsh National School of Medicine. F. A. Davis Company, Philadelphia, 1962.

This manual for student nurses is to prepare them for the preoperative care of patients, the care of patients in the operating room, and to instruct them in precautions to be observed when transporting unconscious patients to their beds.

Many minor to major complications and their prevention are discussed. These have been previously presented many times in various anesthesia publications; however, they cannot be stressed too often. In this country every effort is made to have the patient respond before leaving the operating room even though the short trip to the recovery room is managed by trained personnel. The practice of having untrained personnel transport unconscious patients to the ward and be responsible for their care seems hazardous. The frequent practice in this country causes greater delay between cases; however, this should be justified in view of the added safety.

Alice McNEAL, M.D.

The Nature of Hypnosis (Contemporary Theoretical Approaches) Transactions of the 1961 International Congress on Hypnosis. Edited by MILTON V. KLINE, President, Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis. Paper. Pp. 133. Waverly Press, Inc., Baltimore, Md., 1962.

Hypnosis has long been one of the most intriguing phenomenon in human relations generally and in medicine specifically. Much is

known of techniques for the production of a state of hypnosis, and the manifestations have been extensively described. However, no satisfactory concept of the mechanism of hypnosis nor of its fundamental nature has been established.

In this book, a serious attempt is made to develop an orderly hypothesis. This report includes four symposia in which contemporary thinking of outstanding authorities in the field is present. The first two represent background material on suggestion and meditative concentration. Of particular merit is discussion of "An Atavistic Theory of Hypnosis" which enters into the matter of a biological basis for hypnosis with regression in the phylogenetic sense to a primordial level of function. This is an intriguing concept attempting to unify the difficult problem of auto-hypnosis and induced hypnosis. The last symposium deals with physiological theories and features of hypnosis, and deserves careful attention.

These transactions are worthy reading for anesthesiologists and are a must for those with special interest in the subject. The editing by Dr. Milton V. Kline is excellent, and spontaneity of the original verbal presentation is not lost.

VINCENT J. COLLINS, M.D.

The Human Pulmonary Circulation. Its Form and Function in Health and Disease. By PETER HARRIS, M.D., PH.D. (LONDON), M.R.C.P., Senior Lecturer in Medicine, University of Birmingham, Hon. Consultant Physician, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, AND DONALD HEATH, M.D. (SHEFF.), PH.D. (BIRM.), M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., Senior Lecturer in Pathology, University of Birmingham, Hon. Consultant Pathology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Cloth. \$13.50. Pp. 354. E & S Livingstone Ltd., 1962. (The Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore 2, Md., exclusive U.S. agents.)