

# The Anesthesiologist's Bookshelf

Edited by HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

**Recent Advances in Anaesthesia and Analgesia.** NINTH EDITION. EDITED BY C. LANGTON HEWER, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.F.A.R.C.S., Consulting Anaesthetist to St. Bartholomew's Hospital and to the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, London. Cloth. \$11.50. Pp. 358, with 48 illustrations. Little, Brown & Company, Boston, 1963.

The Ninth Edition of this classic treatise has been published with the same editor as the first edition, 31 years ago. Advances in anesthesia have been so rapid that it is no longer possible for one author to summarize all the new work. Hence, aspects of various subjects in this volume have been written by ten contributing anesthesiologists, each one an authority in the particular field, under the direction of the editor. *Inhalation Anesthesia* is discussed by J. Parkhouse; *Intravenous Anesthesia* by J. D. Robertson; *Muscle Relaxants* by H. C. Churchill-Davidson; *Hypothermia* by B. A. Sellick; *Anesthesia for Neurosurgery* by R. W. Ballentine; *Anesthesia for Cardiac Surgery* by A. I. Perry Brown; *Anesthesia for Diagnostic Procedures* by R. B. Boulton; *Obstetric Anesthesia and Analgesia, Resuscitation of the Newborn* by the late R. J. H. Hodges and M. E. Tunstall; *Mechanical Ventilation of the Lungs* and *The Management of Patients During Artificial Ventilation*, by A. R. Hunter; and *Anesthesia Associated with Latrogenic Conditions*, by J. W. Dundee. Each chapter contains a review of current advances in knowledge in particular subjects. In general it may be stated that each author presents a scholarly account of a large mass of information. There is very little overlapping. There is a liberal amount of charts, drawings and illustrations. Each review is followed by an up-to-date list of references. This is an excellent source of new knowledge for practicing anesthesiologists and for those preparing for examinations.

RICHARD FOREGGER, M.D.

**Atlas of Vascular Surgery.** BY FALLS B. HERSHEY, M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo., AND CARL H. CALMAN, M.D., F.A.C.S., Assistant in Clinical Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis. Illustrated by Kathryn Murphy and William R. Schwartz. Cloth. \$18.00. Pp. 307 with 76 figures and 2 tables. The C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Missouri, 1963.

The purpose of this book, as stated in the Preface, is "to instruct residents as well as practicing surgeons in the methods and techniques of vascular surgery." The authors have achieved their objective eminently well and in commendable fashion. They have drawn upon their broad experience to frame their information in succinct sentences, each one of which is meaningful. The pitfall of window-dressing their work with references historical in nature has been successfully avoided. The text is easily readable. The illustrations, beautifully done and reproduced on glossy paper, compliment their descriptions. The material is well organized and surgeons will find information they seek easy to find and rewarding.

Anesthesiologists will be interested to know that full credit is given to the advent of general anesthesia along with antiseptic and aseptic surgical techniques for extension and development of the surgical art to its present-day refinement. The authors do not presume to inform anesthesiologists of details of anesthetic techniques. Preferences for local, general and spinal anesthesia are expressed in relation to the surgical problems involved, as for example, "General endotracheal anesthesia is desirable since there is some chance of entering the pleural cavity superiorly" (page 206). In their discussion of portal hypertension the authors surprised this reviewer with their verbosity. A paragraph of eight lines in reference to anesthesia appears on page 194. They have likewise limited their discussion to

the surgical aspects of preoperative and post-operative care—a commendable feature.

This book is brought to the attention of anesthesiologists with the intent of advising reference to it when plans for a coordinated team approach to a problem involving vascular surgery are in the making. The mental processes utilized by surgeons in making diagnoses and in planning the surgical approach to intricate vascular problems will be revealed. The anesthesiologist so informed will be in a better position to anticipate steps in surgical procedures that may create problems for him in maintaining each patient's total economy in a stable state. Reference to the illustrations alone will provide valuable information in topographical anatomy that may be valuable when supportive measures involving entry into an artery or vein must be accomplished with dispatch.

RALPH M. TOVELL, M.D.

**The Obstetrician, Anaesthetist and the Paediatrician in the Management of Obstetric Problems.** EDITED BY TREVOR BARNETT, M.D., AND JOHN JOYCE FOLEY, M.B. Cloth. \$7.50. Pp. 188 with illustrations. A Pergamon Press Book (London). The Macmillan Co., New York, 1963.

This book contains the Proceedings of the First Obstetrical Conference organized by the South-Western Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society, held in Portsmouth, England, in November 1961. Thanks are due to Smith, Kline & French, who sponsored the meetings, and to Messrs. Geigy Pharmaceuticals for printing the programs. These services to the medical profession often go unsung and should be recognized more often for their great value in bringing together specialists of various disciplines.

There are 100 pages of formal presentations and 47 pages of discussion, a healthy proportion for the individual expression of opinion. It is a relief to read, in several spots, that caesarian section is recommended for delivery when the fetal circulation is compromised. Too often, practitioners in the United Kingdom have taken pride in their very low incidence of caesarian section. Also, it is a pleasure to read in Dr. Rees's talk, of his condemnation of intragastric oxygen as a resuscitative measure.

We agree that "there never has been one single scrap of scientific evidence to show that intragastric oxygenation was an effective way of oxygenating an infant." Dr. Ian Donald's chapter on "Asphyxia Neonatorum—The Obstetrician's Viewpoint" is charming, historical, brief and witty. Dr. W. Norman Rollason's discussion is especially noteworthy (pp. 63-4). As one of the 8 anesthesiologists of 43 participants . . . and this is a better proportion than could be obtained in a similar meeting in the United States . . . his unhappiness with the ventilation of obstetrical patients who have received relaxants during delivery should be noted.

The request by Dr. Concannon (page 68) for a national policy on maternity anesthesia is wishful thinking, but reflects the urgent need for enlightened thinking about obstetrical anesthesia in both our countries.

The problems of midwife deliveries, unknown to us, are frequently mentioned. It appears that as more obstetrical beds are made available in hospitals, they are immediately filled by patients who prefer medical obstetricians.

Although the title of the book includes the "Paediatrician," only one participant is designated as a pediatrician, and two others hold a degree in Child Health. There is still a long way to go before pediatricians and obstetricians truly collaborate for the welfare of the infant.

This book gives a view of obstetrical and anesthesia practices in South-West England in 1961. There is little new material to be found in the text.

VIRGINIA APGAR, M.D.

**Hypnosis in Modern Medicine.** EDITED BY JEROME M. SCHNECK, A.B., M.D., Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, New York City. With 13 Contributors. Third Edition. Cloth. \$12.75. Pp. 452. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1963.

The publisher underscores the statement that this book, in its third edition, has been completely revised, rewritten and enlarged with some contributors appearing for the first