

The second section is devoted to pharmacology of anesthetic agents and other drugs closely related to anesthesia. The chapter on sympathomimetics is particularly interesting.

A short section on physiology includes discussion of adrenocortical hormones in relation to anesthesia and metabolism, renal function, and interesting concepts of the physiopathology of pain.

The last section deals with artificial ventilation, technique and complications of tracheostomy, and prevention of blood loss.

The authors have made an attempt to present a comprehensive dissertation on both the investigative and clinical aspects of anesthesiology; consequently, at times the outline is limited to fundamentals, and it is frequently very dogmatic. This book must be very popular in France, having been revised and reprinted as a second edition since its 1960 predecessor.

ELIO BALDINI, M.D.

**Infusionsprobleme in der Chirurgie (Infusion Problems in Surgery).** EDITED BY U. F. GRUBER, M.D., AND M. ALLCÖWER, M.D. Paper. DM 7.20 (about \$2). Pp. 109, with 14 illustrations. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 1965.

This booklet is a word-by-word transcript of a colloquium held on June 11, 1964, in Zurich, Switzerland. It is the fifth volume of a series on Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, edited by R. Frey, F. Kern and O. Mayerhofer. The two chairmen and 9 panelists, in two separate sessions, discuss the subjects of Water and Electrolyte Balance, and Shock. It is not clear to whom the panel's remarks were addressed: If to medical students or clinicians not familiar with current, classical or even the most elementary aspects of this subject matter, then the presentations might serve a purpose in giving a birds-eye view of these problems. If addressed to anesthesiologists, surgeons or anyone engaged in the preoperative or postoperative care of the surgical patient, the transcript of these panels is far too sketchy, elementary and at times even primitive. The subject matter is well enough organized and deals with all aspects and complications of fluid and electrolyte therapy, pathogenesis and therapy of shock, transfusion problems, plasma expanders, renal function—some 80 headings in all, many of which are dismissed in less than one-half page. Out of 65 references about 50 are from the United States,

British or Canadian literature. One excellent German article (published in a United States journal) is quoted: the work by Thurau *et al.* on the mechanics of Mannitol diuresis and the function of the juxtaglomerular apparatus. It is surprising to see the anesthesiologist on the panel propound the simultaneous use of narcotics and narcotic antagonists in ready-mix combinations which "avoid respiratory depression without concomitant inhibition of the analgesic effect." It is likewise amazing to find that hypodermoclysis is still being used as a method of fluid replacement in "old people and cardiacs." The pathogenesis of shock is dismissed in two pages. There is no mention of the depression of the epinephrine and nor-epinephrine response by acidosis. Irreversible shock is treated by large doses of steroids, particularly aldosterone. The discussion of the use of ganglionic blocking drugs in shock is very sketchy, as are the paragraphs on hyperbaric oxygenation, hypothermia, respiratory acidosis and assisted respiration, low molecular weight dextran, THAM and intra-arterial blood transfusion. In all, this small volume is more a table of contents, albeit well arranged, than a book. It is of little interest to anesthesiologists, but may be of benefit to students in terms of mapping out a large area of reading.

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**Herz und Kreislauf der Säugetiere (The Heart and Circulation of Mammals).** By DR. MED. VET. JULES GRAUWILLEN, Institute of Veterinary Physiology, University of Zürich, Switzerland. Cloth. 38 Sw. Fr. (about \$9). Pp. 191, with 39 figures and numerous tables. Birkhäuser Verlag. Basel and Stuttgart, Germany, 1965.

This reference book on the comparative physiology and pharmacology of the heart and circulation of mammals presents data obtained from a thorough survey of the literature, supplemented in many places by the original experimental data of the author. In five chapters are discussions on: heart rate; blood pressure in various vessels; electrocardiogram; plasma, cell and blood volume; and minute and stroke volume. Much of the material is summarized in tables. This well-illustrated, beautifully printed, and well-documented volume would serve as a readily available reference source and be of great interest to anyone engaged in cardiovascular research.

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