

The Anesthesiologist's Bookshelf

Edited by HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

Fundamental Considerations in Anesthesia.

THIRD EDITION. BY CHARLES L. BURSTEIN, M.D., Director, Department of Anesthesiology, The Hospital for Special Surgery, Bronx, N. Y. Cloth. \$8.50. Pp. 223, with 70 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1965.

The author, who is a Clinical Associate Professor of Anesthesiology at Cornell University Medical Center, has had extensive experience in clinical anesthesia as well as in experimental physiological and pharmacological studies in both animals and man. He is therefore eminently qualified to write the third edition of this successful practical textbook which is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Royenstine. A majority of the significant physiological and pharmacological concepts which may be confronted daily in clinical anesthesia are presented in a clear, concise and readily comprehensible fashion.

Two new chapters describe the complications which may follow administration of the newer agents which have been added to the armamentarium of the anesthesiologist. These include ataraxic drugs, tranquilizers and hypotensive agents. Particular emphasis is placed upon adreno-cortical insufficiency and the effects which the above agents may have upon the autonomic nervous system. References to various other recent advances in anesthetic management have brought this edition up-to-date.

This well-illustrated book is recommended reading for all residents and students of anesthesiology, and should certainly be helpful to most who teach anesthesia. This publication is a very worthwhile addition for every hospital library and anesthesiology department.

P. C. LUND, M.D.

Science and Practice in Anesthesia. EDITED

BY JAMES E. ECKENHOFF, M.D., F.F.A.R.C.S. Cloth. \$7.00. Pp. 160, with illustrations. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and Toronto, 1965.

The purpose of the book is clearly established in the Foreword. On the occasion of a reunion of those who had been connected in one way or another with the Department of Anesthesia at the

University of Pennsylvania, a number of addresses were made by these people. These were collected, edited and published as a memorial to a distinguished department in a distinguished school. The essays, written by a number of outstanding alumni of the department, present no ordered approach to any particular aspect of the discipline of anesthesia.

The essays assume different styles. For example, some are synoptic, others are "rehashes" of other publications by the same author, a few are concise reviews and a number are of the "how to do it" type. The reviewer notes one new word, "intensivist," coined apparently by one of the distinguished alumni, Dr. Peter Safar. Conciseness reaches its ultimate in a two-page essay by Dr. Henry Price.

For those readers who are interested in the output of an excellent department as well as a few articles suitable for reference, the book is worthy of acquiring.

STUART C. CULLEN, M.D.

The Evolution of Anaesthesia. BY M. H.

ARMSTRONG; DAVISON, M.B.E., T.D., M.D., F.F.A.R.C.S., Lecturer in Anaesthetics and in the History of Medicine in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne; Sometime Vice President of the Scottish Society of the History of Medicine. Cloth. 35/- net. Pp. 236, with 28 illustrations. John Sherratt and Son, Publisher, Altrincham, England, 1965.

In his introduction to this short, scholarly book the author states his belief that "the history of Anesthesia can only be interpreted correctly by viewing it in the perspective of other human activities, medical, scientific and social; inventions, discoveries, wars, religious beliefs, and all the manifestations of art and culture." The first chapter, "Chronology of the History of Anaesthesia," comprises almost half of the book. The author in this section relates the development of anesthesia as a branch of medicine to "well defined periods of the main stream of history." The remaining chapters give a brief but inclusive account of the discovery of the various agents and the development of methods and techniques for their administration.