principles of blood coagulation and continuing to
a brief description of various disorders of coagula-
tion. There is also a discussion of the uses and
nature of anticoagulants, with special emphasis
given to problems of blood coagulation in the new-
born, problems due to fibrinolysis, massive trans-
fusion, and changes related to pregnancy.

I believe that anesthesiologists come in im-
mediate contact with coagulation difficulties fre-
quently enough to make this type of information
valuable to us. A more detailed book would per-
haps be unnecessarily complex.

WILLIAM K. HAMILTON, M.D.

Electrolytes and Cardiovascular Diseases.
Vol. 1. Fundamental Aspects. Vol. 2. Clini-
cal Aspects. Edited by Eörs Bajusz, Uni-
versity of Montreal, Canada. Cloth. $16.00
The Williams & Wilkins Co., Baltimore.

This two-volume work is organized and edited
by Eörs Bajusz, who is a student of myocardial
physiology. It is a collection of over 40 papers
largely on the subject of the myocardium in dis-
ease states. The papers in volume 1 report elec-
trolyte changes and various pathologic conditions
in animals, while volume 2 is a study of changes
as measured in man. The editor's stated purpose
in compiling this symposium is to review the cur-
cent status of knowledge in the field of electrolyte
metabolism, including the relations of anion-cation
interactions to the normal functions of heart
and blood vessels. He has succeeded in bringing
in the wealth of data and concepts concerning
membrane transport, electrolyte shifts (particular-
ly related to potassium), and nutritional factors
in various states of myocardial health and disease.

These volumes will be of use to individuals in re-
viewing the literature on myocardial metabolism,
and to those who wish to study myocardial func-
tion and disease. While they provide data of im-
portance, the individual review articles do not lend
themselves to easy, rapid study by the clinician.

D. W. EASTWOOD, M.D.

The Veins. Normal and Abnormal Function.
By J. Edwin Wood, M.D., Professor of Medi-
cine, Professor of Physiology, and Virginia
Heart Association Research Professor of Cardi-
ology, University of Virginia School of Medicine,
Charlottesville. Cloth. $10.00. Pp. 224, with
73 illustrations. Little, Brown and Company,
Boston, 1965.

The small monograph collates the mass of data
on the venous system that has been accumulating
during recent years, and relates this knowledge
to human physiology and disease. A great deal
of this information has been derived from studies
employing the plethysmograph, and the book is
mainly concerned with this instrument and its
contributions to our understanding of the func-
tions of the veins.

The plethysmograph, a method of physiological
measurement which is almost three centuries old,
is a very imperfect tool, but it remains the chief
source of knowledge about the venous system.

Much of the first section of the book, therefore,
which deals with the methods available for study
of the veins, is given over to descriptions of the
plethysmograph in its various forms and the ap-
lications of these in investigative situations.

The second part of the book considers the role of
the veins as capacitance vessels with vasmotor tone
which responds to neural and humoral stimuli in-
duced by temperature, mental activity, posture,
respiration, exercise, and a variety of drugs.

The final section of the book is devoted to the actions
of the veins in various clinical states, including con-
gestive heart failure, hypertension, anemia, shock,
arterial hypertension, phlebitis, pregnancy, and
during therapy with oral contraceptives.

This is a readable and adequate summary of what
is known at present about the role that the
venous system plays in the overall control of the
circulation and the useful distribution of the blood
under a variety of circumstances in health and
disease. The anesthesiologist who does not yet
appreciate these concepts will find here a ready
review of the fundamental facts.

DAVID M. LITTLE, JR., M.D.

Cardiac Evaluation in Normal Infants. By
Robert F. Ziegler, M.D., Physician-in-Charge,
Division of Pediatric Cardiology, Henry Ford
Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. Cloth. $12.75
(Pp. 170, with 29 illustrations. The C. V.
Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1965.

The author is one of the leading authorities on
cardiology of the newborn and has written other
books on this topic. The purpose of this text is to
provide a practical clinical guide in the detection
of abnormal cardiac conditions. Fetal circula-
tion and its transitional changes that occur from fetal
to neonatal life are reviewed. In the neonate, the
author discusses heart rate, pulmonary and sys-
temic circulation, blood pressure, heart size and
heart murmurs and their evaluation, and cyanosis.

The book is well illustrated with electrocardio-
grams and chest films and there is an extensive
bibliography. This is a worthwhile book for those
who deal with the newborn.

M. DIGBY LEIGH, M.D.