

Rarely should one recommend a book as a must, but the reviewer considers that this monograph is filled with worthwhile practical clinical information, and recommends it to every anesthesiologist and also to his surgeon colleagues.

VINCENT J. COLLINS, M.D.

**Les méthodes psychosomatiques d'accouchement sans douleur (Histoire, théorie, pratique).** PAR LE DOCTEUR CHARTOK, Assistant au Centre de Médecine Psychosomatique de Villejuif. Paper 1,500 francs. Pp. 268. L'Expansion française, 15, rue Saint-Benoit, Paris 6<sup>e</sup>, 1957.

The history of psychosomatic methods in obstetrics, and their practice in Soviet Russia occupy more than two thirds of the book. There is an extensive bibliography of 458 international references.

VIRGINIA APOAR, M.D.

**Acta de l'Institut d'Anesthésiologie. Tome V.** Publiés sous la direction du PROFESSEUR P. MOULONGUET. Paper 2,000 francs. Pp. 272, 70 figures et tableaux. Librairie Arnette, 2, rue Casimir-Delavigne, Paris, 1956.

This fifth volume contains 7 review articles and 11 reports on original work on a variety of subjects such as cardiac arrest, dental anesthesia, premedication in children, measurement of carbon dioxide during anesthesia, and hypothermia.

A general index for the first 5 volumes is included.

VIRGINIA APOAR, M.D.

**Munro Kerr's Operative Obstetrics.** Sixth Edition. Edited by J. CHASSAR MOIR, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), F.R.C.O.G., Nuffield Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Oxford, England. Cloth \$20.00. Pp. 1008, 407 illustrations, 4 in color. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore 2, 1956.

This 1,000-page volume is a beautifully printed and illustrated guide to operative obstetrics. An effort to incorporate the latest information added to a description of some time-honored but unphysiological treatment in the immediate newborn period results in some paradoxical information. Hypercarbia is recognized as an integral part of post-natal depression, yet a "jet" of pure carbon dioxide is recommended to stimulate respiration. Milking the trachea, tubbing the infant for asphyxia pallida, and the use of coramine for thiopental depression are also advised. Practicing endotracheal intubation on dead infants is encouraged. In Chapter 4, aspiration of vomitus is stated to be involved in 4 per cent to 5 per cent of maternal deaths, but in chapter on maternal mortality, the subject is not mentioned. Spinal anesthesia fares rather badly—"meningeal irritation commonly follows spinal anesthesia." No mention is made of the carefully followed series of patients in Philadelphia receiving spinal anesthesia. The usual enthusiastic doses of drugs given in Britain are again recommended—1:200 nupercaine, 15 mg. morphine, 500–1,000 mg. of 5 per cent thiopental, 90 per cent nitrous oxide,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 grains secobarbital, while surprisingly, the suggested concentration of lidocaine for continuous caudal anesthesia is 0.5 per cent. With these exceptions, the chapters on anesthetics and resuscitation are handled fairly well.

VIRGINIA APOAR, M.D.

**Expectant Motherhood.** Third Edition. By NICHOLSON J. EASTMAN, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics in The Johns Hopkins University and Obstetrician-in-Chief to The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Cloth \$1.75. Pp. 198, with 13 illustrations. Little, Brown & Company, 34 Beacon Street, Boston 6, 1957.

This concise volume is reported to have sold 800,000 copies since it was first published in 1940. It is intended as a reference book for pregnant women and includes chapters on the growth of the fetus, diet in pregnancy, common discomforts, the birth of the baby, and