

THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S BOOKSHELF

HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D., *Editor*

Pharmacology in Medicine. A Collaborative Textbook. Second Edition. EDITED BY VICTOR A. DRILL, Ph.D., M.D., Lecturer in Pharmacology, Northwestern University Medical School; Professorial Lecturer in Pharmacology, University of Illinois College of Medicine; Director of Biological Research, G. D. Searle and Company. Cloth \$19.50. Pp. 1273 with illustrations. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., Blakiston Division, New York, Toronto, London, 1958.

This large, authoritative volume is composed of 19 parts, which in turn encompass 88 chapters written by 86 outstanding contributors, including three professors of anesthesiology. Seventy-eight of the above contributors participated in the first edition.

The 19 divisions cover historical background and general principles of drug action, as well as drug preparations and prescription writing; general anesthetics; local anesthetics; adjuncts to anesthesia; sedation, hypnosis and analgesia; central nervous system stimulants; psychopharmacology; the autonomic nervous system; the cardiovascular system; water and salt balance; the gastrointestinal tract; dermatomucosal agents; the hematopoietic system; the metals and radioactive elements; gases, vapors and dusts; the vitamins and other nutritional factors; the endocrine glands and accessory reproductive organs; and specific chemotherapy. Consideration is given mainly to those drugs currently in practical use, including their mechanism of action, effect within the body and therapeutic value. At the end of the book there is an addendum to a previously written chapter and an adequate index. Each chapter closes with a list of references, some of which are extensive. Monographs and reviews occasionally are grouped separately under the references.

A wealth of up-to-date information is presented in this volume in a very concise and readable form. The illustrations are adequate and well selected. The general format of this book is excellent.

This publication is highly recommended as an excellent reference book for both medical students and physicians. All anesthesiologists will find much of vital concern to them in this comprehensive volume.

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Bases Physio-Biologiques et Principes Généraux de Réanimation. BY H. LABORIT, Surgeon of the Maritimes Hospital, Paris, France, Holder of the Albert Lasker Prize of the American Public Health Association for 1957; with the collaboration of CARA, M., JOUASSET, D., DUCHESNE, G., and LABORIT, G. Paper 2,600 fr. Pp. 273, illustrated with tables, figures, and line drawings. Masson et Cie, Editors, Librairies de L'Académie de Médecine, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris-VI, France, 1958.

This most recent book of Dr. Laborit and his colleagues is a broad review of the physiological and biological phenomena of normal and diseased cells, phenomena which, in the opinion of the author, must be thoroughly understood by any physician treating a diseased patient. Re-establishment of an harmonic organic function is particularly emphasized, in the difficult process of "reanimation" of cells.

More than half the book is devoted to electrolyte and fluid dynamics and the regulation of hydrogen ion concentration. The last portion of the book is devoted to the application of these basic physiological principles to "reanimation," which is translated by the reviewer as "resuscitation." The author's interest in artificial hibernation, and the effects of increasing and lowering body temperature are apparent.