

THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S BOOKSHELF

HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, *Editor*

Physics for the Anaesthetist. Second Edition. BY SIR ROBERT MACINTOSH, D.M., F.R.C.S.E., F.F.A.R.C.S., M.D. (HON. CAUSA), Buenos Aires and Aix-Marseilles, Nuffield Professor of Anaesthetics, University of Oxford; WILLIAM W. MUSHIN, M.A., M.B., B.S., F.F.A.R.C.S., Professor of Anaesthetics, Welsh National School of Medicine, University of Wales, Formerly First Assistant, Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics, University of Oxford, AND H. G. EPSTEIN, M.A., Ph.D., F.F.A.R.C.S., First Assistant, Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics, University of Oxford. Cloth \$15.00. Pp. 443, with 379 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publishers, 301-327 E. Lawrence Ave., Springfield, Illinois, 1958.

This second edition is almost double the size of the first which was published in 1946, and over 100 new pages have been added concerning explosions. Few changes have been made in the first part of the book. Additional space could have been given to discussion of the electronic equipment now present in operating rooms. This book should be read by all anesthesiologists, since it contains a wealth of practical information.

M. DIGBY LEIGH, M.D.

Illustrated Preoperative and Postoperative Care. BY PHILIP THOREK, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S., Professor of Surgery, Cook County Graduate School of Medicine, with drawings by CARL T. LINDEN. Cloth \$5.00. Pp. 98, with 60 illustrations. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5; 4865 Weston Ave., Montreal, 1958.

This is a concise, well organized and profusely illustrated text. It has two sections, one of 17 pages on Preoperative Care and one of 71 pages on Postoperative Care. In the Preface the author states that he wishes to re-emphasize many well-known, but often overlooked, practical aspects of diagnosis and treat-

ment which have been overshadowed in recent years by enthusiasm for newer and often complicated laboratory tests, and by research stimulated treatments. Much of the text is in outline form, and the illustrations have been so well planned and executed that the point each makes is at once obvious and easily remembered. There is an excellent small section emphasizing the dangers of the 'let-up' in the immediate postoperative period, namely, the time between the last stitch and the trip to the recovery room. Although this is the only section relating directly to anesthesia, there are several chapters which the anesthesiologist will find useful for study and reference. These include one on parenteral fluids and another on acidosis and alkalosis, both dealing with biochemistry, diagnosis, and treatment. The reader is advised to seek other more specific texts for details of management in the recovery room, although the author stresses a few points of special concern to him.

RUTH ANDERSON, M.D.

Electrocardiography. BY MICHAEL BERNREITER, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Kansas Medical School; Chief of Electrocardiography, St. Mary's Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri. Cloth \$5.00. Pp. 134 with 92 figures and 1 table. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5; 4865 Western Ave., Montreal, 1958.

Since the recent advent of safe and conveniently engineered instruments for monitoring the electrocardiogram in the operating room, many conscientious anesthesiologists have had to question their competency to interpret the traces they view daily. Doctor Bernreiter's little manual is ideally suited to refresh the memory of long forgotten lessons in this useful science and to clarify those points concerning polarity of leads and the significance of the various phases of the cycle which were never quite mastered.