

included, but ample references to original work are included. There is a section on chemical and physical properties of the barbiturates, with references to methods of determination. The pharmacology of these compounds is discussed, followed by a review of what is known concerning distribution and metabolism of the barbiturates. The chemistry of the metabolism and relationship of molecular structure to pharmacological activity are stressed. The potentiation and antagonism to barbiturates are reviewed. The material mentioned takes about 40 pages. The remainder of the 334 pages is composed of tables concerned with dissociation constants of barbituric acids, salts and compounds, physical properties, and distribution coefficients.

There is a listing of barbituric acids by generic chemical name and another by trade name. There is also an excellent listing of barbituric acids by chemical structure, grouped by chemical composition, with references to the original work describing each compound. The thoroughness of this listing is seen when it is realized that there are 1,204 references. A valuable formula index is included, as well as a good subject index.

This book is well bound and the type easily legible. Formulas are easy to read. The presentation is concise and accurate. It is recommended for anyone who desires a good source of material on chemistry of barbiturates, or who desires completeness of literature references to the preparation and properties of these substances. Anyone working in either chemistry of pharmacology of the barbiturates will find it valuable. The first 40 pages con-

tain material with which every anesthesiologist should be familiar.

ROBERT W. VIRTUE, M.D.

Resuscitation of the Unconscious Victim, a Manual for Rescue Breathing. BY PETER SAFAR, M.D. Chief, Department of Anesthesiology, Baltimore City Hospitals, Asst. Prof. Anesthesiology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Clinical Associate Professor of Anesthesiology University of Maryland School of Medicine, and MARTIN C. MCMAHON, Captain, Baltimore Fire Department Ambulance Service, with 15 illustrations by COLIN E. THOMPSON, JR. Paper \$1.75. Pp. 80. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1959.

This pocket sized, paper bound manual is written primarily for nonmedical persons "actively concerned with the application and teaching of first aid." However, physicians will find it a useful guide for instruction in the life saving techniques of getting air into the lungs of unconscious persons whose airway may be obstructed, or who have ceased to breathe. It is well founded on the personal study and experiences of the authors. The material is logically and understandably presented to emphasize the important place of expired air methods (mouth-to-mouth, mouth-to-nose, mouth-to-airway, and mouth-to-mask) as compared with mechanical or atmospheric air methods in emergency treatment. Excellent elementary discussions, a useful glossary, and 15 references are included.

LUCIEN E. MORRIS, M.D.