

THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S BOOKSHELF

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

A Pharmacologic Approach to the Study of the Mind. Edited by ROBERT M. FEATHERSTONE, PH.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco and ALEXANDER SIMON, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, California. Cloth, \$10.75. Pp. 399, with illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1959.

This is an exciting report of a three-day symposium held at the University of California School of Medicine. There were 41 speakers and as many presentations. The theme is both a chemical and pharmacologic study of thinking and of abnormal behavior. The subject matter includes well prepared discussions of psychochemistry and psychopharmacology, of the philosophy of investigation, especially non-empiric approaches; of problems in research design, and of the tranquilizers and excitants, including hallucinogenic drugs. The presentation of Aldous Huxley is especially edifying in terms of concepts.

This volume is well edited. It suffers from the usual difficulties of reporting a symposium, namely, the overlap of material, which is particularly pronounced in discussions on hallucinogenic drugs. The readability is good. All papers have good reference lists. Anesthesiologists could profitably read most of these papers to broaden their knowledge and to stimulate a fresh approach in their own field.

VINCENT J. COLLINS, M.D.

Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

Official publication of the American Therapeutic Society. Vol. 1. No. 1. January-February, 1960. WALTER MODELL, M.D., Editor, 1300 York Avenue, New York 21, N. Y. Published bimonthly. Subscription rates: U. S. and its Possessions \$12.50 (students \$6.25); Canada, Latin-America and

Spain \$13.00 (students \$6.75); other countries \$13.50 (students \$7.25). Single copies \$2.50. The C. V. Mosby Co., 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 3, Missouri.

This new scientific publication is a welcome addition to the medical literature. Its distinguished editorial board of 27 members includes three from England, one from Sweden and the remainder from the United States. This journal is devoted to the publication of original articles and reviews dealing with the effects of drugs in man, which previously were never readily accessible in a single journal. The plan is to not publish articles on animal experimentation, *per se*; such reports being limited to an integral part of, or basic to, studies dealing primarily with the effects of drugs in man.

It is now widely recognized that there are many problems concerning the pharmacologic and therapeutic evaluation of the large number of new drugs regularly being marketed, promoted, and introduced into medical practice. An up-to-date collection of basic studies on the effects of these drugs in man is of great importance.

This first edition contains 136 pages devoted to an editorial, a commentary, a symposium, introducing the study of drugs in man, five original articles, five review articles, and one book review. The articles are timely and replete with references. Advertisements appear inside the front and back covers. This journal has an excellent format, paper and printing are of fine quality, and the illustrations are adequate.

This journal is highly recommended to the medical profession, both academic and practicing.

H. M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

Principles and Practices of Obstetric Anaesthesia. By J. SELWYN CRAWFORD, M.B., CH.B., D.A. (England), F.F.A.R.C.S., Anaesthesia Service, The Presbyterian Hospital,

New York; Late Registrar and First Assistant, Department of Anaesthesia, Central Middlesex Hospital, London. Cloth. \$4.00. Pp. 128, with 2 figures. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois; Blackwell Scientific Publications, Ltd., 24-25 Broad Street, Oxford, England.

Despite its small size, this book contains a great deal of information that should be of interest to the obstetrician as well as to the anesthesiologist. It presents a concise and lucid discussion of the physiological changes in the pregnant woman, and some of the pathological conditions that may be encountered. How these changes influence the analgetic and anesthetic management of her labor and delivery are dealt with clearly. Supported by sufficient references, it brings up-to-date the facts known about placental function and transmission.

The management of the first stage of labor emphasizes a technique that can be used safely in the domiciliary type of practice that is so common in the United Kingdom. The use of conduction analgesia, so popular in the United States, is not presented enthusiastically by this author. Although one may not agree entirely with the author's suggested management of the various obstetrical situations requiring anesthesia, he does present logical reasons for his selection.

There is a very good, though abbreviated, chapter on the physiological changes in the neonate immediately after delivery, and the management of respiratory disturbances that too frequently occur.

This book is well written and has an adequate bibliography. It achieves its objectives in supplying a much needed British text on obstetrical anesthesia, and in pointing out clearly the many deficiencies in our knowledge of the actions of drugs, especially on the child.

DAVID A. DAVIS, M.D.

A Textbook of Surgical Physiology. By R. AINSLIE JAMIESON, M.B., F.R.C.S. Ed., Surgeon, Vale of Leven Hospital, Alexandria, Dunbartonshire and ANDREW W. KAY, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Ed.) F.R.F.P.S.G. Professor of Surgery, University of Sheffield. Cloth. \$11.00. Pp. 623 with 186 illustra-

tions. The Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore 2, Md., exclusive U. S. agents, 1959.

Anesthesiologists as well as surgeons will find this textbook valuable since it offers, in compact form, information directly related to "those aspects of applied physiology which are fundamental to the practice of general surgery." It is a valuable reference book, encompassing in one volume information which otherwise would require an extensive search of the literature. Discussion of physiology related to clinical surgery and to pathology for the systems and organs of the body are included, except for the central nervous system, ovary, and pituitary. So broad a field necessitates brief treatment, but essential material is well covered.

Excellent paper and clear type make reading this book a pleasant experience. Illustrations include appropriate tables, graphs, drawings, and photographs. References are presented at the end of each chapter and are stated to include only those the authors considered most helpful and authoritative, not all the material which they reviewed.

This book offers a brief, reliable summary of physiology pertinent to surgery. For full discussion of a given subject one would need to consult original articles or more exhaustive texts.

JULIA G. ARROWOOD, M.D.

Experimental Surgery, Including Surgical Physiology. By J. MARKOWITZ, M.B.E., M.B. (Tor.), Ph.D., M.S., Prof. of Physiology, University of Toronto; J. ARCHIBALD, D.V.M., M.V. Sc., D.V.M., Prof. and Head of the Division of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, Ontario Veterinary College, and H. G. DOWNIE, D.V.M., M.S., M.V. Sc., Prof. and Head, Department of Physiological Sciences, Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ont. Fourth Edition. Cloth. Pp. 931 with 580 illustrations. \$12.50. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1959.

This is the fourth edition of a popular textbook in experimental surgery which first appeared in 1937, and was previously revised in 1949 and 1954. Although the authors claim