DOLPH M. GREBE. Paper. $7.50. Pp. 393 with 133 tables and 24 graphs. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelpiha and London, 1959.

This book is the tenth in a series of publications, each containing information, chiefly tabular, in one or more fields of the biological sciences. These handbooks have been prepared under the general direction of the Committee on the Handbook of Biological Data, Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

The information for the present handbook was prepared and contributed by leading authorities in the field of circulation. The data were tabulated and edited by the handbook staff, then critically reviewed and authenticated by experts in the areas covered in this volume.

The Handbook of Circulation is presented as the companion volume to the Handbook of Respiration. Its purpose is to make available in a single, comprehensive compilation useful data on circulation, organized for ready reference in the form of tables, graphs, diagrams, and drawings. Efforts are made throughout to statistically evaluate the reliability of the data presented. The work includes a great quantity of data on circulation, both in man and in other vertebrates. The contents include Circulatory Anatomy; Chemical Composition and Physical Properties; Blood Volumes; Cardiac Output; Heart Rate; Blood Pressures; Blood Flow and Lymph Flow; The Electrocardiogram; Heart Sounds and Murmurs; Effect of Pregnancy; Effect of Compression, Decompression, and Acceleration; Effect of Radiation; Blood Coagulants and Anticoagulants; Effect of Drugs and Chemical Substances; Translocation in Plants; and Effect of Pathologic Conditions. There are three appendices which give aid in calculations of clinical values.

This material should be of tremendous value to anyone doing research on circulation or applying results to clinical situations. References to original work are abundant, so this is a good source of background information for starting or bringing up-to-date projects in nearly every phase of the field of circulation. It should be in the library of anyone interested in variables which accompany circulatory changes. This is a monumental work.

The book is lithographed with a paper back. The figures and type are clear cut and easily read.

ROBERT W. VIRTUE, M.D.

On the Inhalation of the Vapour of Ether. By JOHN SNOW. Reprint. Cloth $5.00. Under auspices of Wood-Library-Museum of Anesthesiology, 131 West 11th Street, New York 11, N. Y.

A fine edition of the classic work of John Snow on ether has been prepared by the Wood Library Museum of Anesthesiology. The cover is in the tradition of the original Churchill edition. A high grade paper has been used and the work is printed with type similar to that of the middle 19th Century. A frontpiece photograph of John Snow and a preface have been added.

This reprint has been desired by many and is a landmark in the history of anesthesia. It is recommended to all anesthesiologists and collectors of historically important medical books and incunabula.

VINCENT J. COLLINS, M.D.

L'Électrocardiogramme Dysmétabolique. First Edition. By A. LARCAN and C. HURIET. Paper 2,500 francs (French). Pp. 221, with 29 figures, 10 tables. Masson & Cie, Éditeurs, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris 6, 1959.

During the past decade there has been increasing interest in the electrocradiographic changes found during the course of disorders affecting the electrolytic composition of body fluids. Although the electrocardiogram is not a substitute for accurate chemical estimations, such a method of investigation has become of practical value in rapidly reinforcing the assessment of a clinical situation. This French monograph, written by two members of the medical center at Nancy, sets out to analyze the present state of knowledge of this subject. The bulk of the text is devoted to the influence of potassium levels on the electrocardiogram and deals fully with changes found in both hyperkalemia and hypokalemia. The concept of the potassium gradient is fully discussed