

been accepted as the preferred suture material. Some experimental work has been done with atrial mechanical suturing, and this has been used on a few patients. An electric pressure gauge has been devised for intracardiac measurements.

Several chapters are devoted to mechanical suture of vessels "which gives automatic and irrefragable angiorrhaphy." One fairly simple bit of apparatus has been developed which "fulfills all the most essential and more practical requirements of vascular surgery, *i.e.*, the suturing of blood vessels from 2.5 to 8 mm. in diameter."

A remarkable set of instruments evidently has been developed for surgery of the abdominal section of the esophagus. It is pointed out that by no means every surgeon can use these instruments, and suggestions are offered as to what additional types of instruments are needed. The use of an instrument for doubly suturing stomachs with tantalum wire is described. Such tools are also being employed for intestinal anastomoses.

Electronarcosis is being studied. This chapter ends with: "Further investigations are needed to perfect the apparatus and develop methods which would give deep anesthesia with the minimum detrimental effect of the current on the body." A few data are given concerning currents used.

Defibrillators and artificial pump oxygenators have been studied. Their state of development at the time of publication of this book was associated with about the same problems confronting others working in this field at that time. For example: they had a good defibrillator; they could pump blood safely for an hour; with cooling and oxygenation the period of circulatory occlusion could be extended beyond the commonly accepted period; they were using an instrument for experimental cardiac massage; they were studying the methods of neutralizing heparin by protamin and protamin-like substances.

Although the subjects do not fall in place under the title of this book, mention is made of attempts to preserve and transplant entire organs, and to show that by proper treatment nerve cells may be capable of revival after as much as 15 minutes of clinical death.

This book has a cloth cover and litho-

graphed pages. The illustrations are adequate, although the reader would probably have a difficult time in reproducing the instruments from the drawings. There are no references.

This book may offer some stimulus to those interested in electrical narcosis, to vascular surgeons, or to our manufacturers of suturing apparatus. It is obviously not a story of what the Institute is doing in 1961, but of what occurred six years ago.

ROBERT W. VIRTUE, M.D.

An Atlas of Pain Patterns. Sites and Behavior of Pain in Certain Common Diseases of the Upper Abdomen. By L. A. SMITH, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, N. A. CHRISTENSEN, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, N. O. HANSON, M.D., Instructor in Medicine, D. E. RALSTON, M.D., Instructor in Medicine, R. W. P. ACHON, M.D., Instructor in Medicine, K. C. BERGE, M.D., Instructor in Medicine, C. W. MORROW, JR., M.D., Consultant in Medicine, and A. H. BULBULIAN, Assistant Professor of Medical Education, Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation. Cloth. Pp. 54, with 10 figures and many illustrations, mainly in colour. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 E. Lawrence Ave., Springfield, Illinois, 1961.

This beautifully bound, printed, and well-illustrated book presents a concept of pain patterns found in five abdominal diseases: hiatal hernia, gastric ulcer, duodenal ulcer, gall bladder disease and pancreatic disease. The mechanism of referred pain is discussed. Some variations in the area to which it may be referred in the five illnesses are given.

This book is of little use to anesthesiologists. It is designed primarily for those attempting to make a differential diagnosis in the above-mentioned diseases, by the location of radiation of pain.

DOUGLAS W. EASTWOOD, M.D.

Anesthesia and the Law. By CARL ERWIN WASMUTH, M.D., LL.B., Staff Anesthesiologist, Department of Anesthesiology, Cleveland Clinic Foundation and the Frank E. Bunts Educational Institute, Assistant Pro-

fessor in Legal Medicine, Director of the Department of Medical-Legal Affairs, Cleveland-Marshall Law School, Cleveland, Ohio. Cloth. \$5.00. Pp. 105, with 10 illustrations. Publication No. 448, American Lecture Series, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1961.

An anesthesiologist on the staff of the Cleveland Clinic, the author is well known for his contributions to anesthesiology. Interest in the legal aspects of medical practice led him to obtain a degree in law, and he now teaches legal medicine, in addition to practicing anesthesiology. He has written a number of articles on the law and anesthesia.

Although the book is small, it contains a wealth of information. The style of writing has just enough legal flavor to be interesting, and yet is intelligible to the non-legal mind. Since it is written by an anesthesiologist for anesthesiologists, the subject matter, the examples and the orientation are interesting and pertinent.

The author defines, explains, illustrates and discusses the significance of various legal terms and concepts. The subject of consent for surgery and anesthesia is discussed from the standpoint of emergency situations, minors, fraud, and validity. Sample consent forms are presented, which can serve as models for various hospitals or physicians. Negligence and malpractice are similarly explained. The relationships which exist among patient, surgeon, anesthesiologist, nurse and hospital are discussed. Reasons are given why one individual may be responsible for the acts of another. Particularly important is the discussion of the respective responsibilities of surgeon and anesthesiologist, and the change in the "captain of the ship" doctrine. Of interest to the anesthesiologist are discussions of legal aspects of endotracheal intubation, spinal analgesia, and cardiac arrest, and of more general interest are privileged communications and hospital liability. Anesthesiologists are personally concerned, since these concepts have a bearing on their everyday activities. It may be just as easy to be legally right instead of wrong, if one knows what the law regards as right. Lack of knowledge of the law is no excuse; awareness of the law allows us

to act appropriately so that we do not violate the rights of others. If we act this way, the frequency of lawsuits is diminished, and the defense of the physician is made easier.

The book is printed on glossy paper with easy to read type. Headings, paragraph structure, and references make the content easy to follow. One draw-back is a number of annoying proof-reader's errors. Few illustrations are needed or used.

This book should be read by every practicing or resident anesthesiologist. Certain portions of it also are important reading for surgeons. Anesthesiologists might select these pertinent sections, and ask their surgical colleagues to study them.

JACOB J. JACOBY, M.D.

The Parenchyma of Law. (A dissection of the legal principles affecting the doctor, his practice and his role as a citizen, witness or defendant.) By D. W. LOUISELL, LL.B., Professor of Law, University of California; H. WILLIAMS, M.D., LL.B. Cloth. \$12.50. Pp. 517, with glossary and appendix. Professional Medical Publications, Rochester, New York, (division of The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Company of Rochester and Bancroft-Whitney Company of San Francisco), 1960.

This book, as the authors point out in the preface, is not intended as a compendium of medico-legal problems, but rather is aimed to help the physician comprehend the realities of law and its administration by lawyers, judges and juries. It also attempts to elucidate some of the fundamental encroachments of the law upon the physician's professional life, although perhaps falling somewhat short in the latter aim.

The book is divided into four sections and sixteen chapters. The organization is reasonably good and although the text is occasionally rambling, and generously sprinkled with technical legal terms, on the whole it is easy reading matter with the help of an excellent glossary. In addition, frequent quotations from the decisions and opinions of great legal minds, both past and present, lend a note of authority to the authors' own conclusions.