

tions. It would be a valuable addition to the library of every anesthesiologist.

J. J. JACOBY, M.D.

**Vector Electrocardiography.** BY HERMAN N. UHLEY, M.D., Assistant Chief, Department of Medicine, Mount Zion Hospital and Medical Center, San Francisco, California. Cloth. \$8.50. Pp. 339, with 8 figures and numerous unnumbered plates. Library of Congress Catalog Number 62-8092. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, 1962.

This monograph discusses in a simple, easily understandable manner the basic principles of vectorcardiography and the use of this method as a diagnostic aid in cardiology. The author is a cardiologist well versed in the use of both electrocardiography and vectorcardiography. He points out in his introductory remarks that while the diagnostic superiority of vectorcardiography over conventional electrocardiography is still a debated topic, the relative simplicity of interpretation of vectorcardiographic patterns offers definite advantages. The book is well printed, and illustrations are clear. There are few bibliographic references. It would have helped the neophyte, trying to familiarize himself with the various patterns of vectorcardiographic tracings, if the corresponding conventional electrocardiographic tracings would also have been presented. Although at present the understanding of vectorcardiography is not an essential prerequisite for the anesthetic management of surgical patients, it may become so with its more general acceptance. However, it offers an excellent approach to understanding the electrophysiologic basis of conventional electrocardiography.

This monograph is highly recommended to those who want to familiarize themselves with the promising new diagnostic aid: vectorcardiography. It should be especially useful for anesthesiologists interested in cardiovascular research.

FRANCIS F. FOLDES, M.D.

**New Methods of Studying Gaseous Exchange and Pulmonary Function.** BY ALFRED FLEISCH, M.D., Professor and Director of the Physiological Department, Lausanne University, Lausanne, Switzerland. Authorized translation by Charles

Corsi, with a Preface by L. Michaud, Late Professor of Clinical Medicine, Lausanne University. Cloth. \$5.75. Pp. 116, with 33 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1960.

This is an English translation of a book previously published in French and German. It consists of a rather detailed description of the development and workings of several types of apparatus designed and improved by Dr. Fleisch. Instruments and methods for determination and calculation of oxygen consumption and carbon dioxide production occupy a large portion. The now popular Fleisch pneumotachograph is discussed in detail. Descriptions are thorough and illustrations are good.

The book is inappropriately titled in that it does not present a comprehensive coverage of new methods of testing pulmonary function, and discusses at length improvements in methods which are not new. It would appear this volume would be of limited value to anesthesiologists.

WILLIAM K. HAMILTON, M.D.

**Fainting. Physiological and Psychological Considerations.** SECOND EDITION. BY GEORGE L. ENGEL, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, New York. Cloth. \$7.50. Pp. 196, with 4 figures. Publication No. 473, American Lecture Series. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1962.

This is an exceedingly interesting and provocative study of the various causes of syncope. The reviewer believes it essential for this book to be available, at least, to all residency training programs and for those about to take their National Board Examinations. There are many references which are well worth investigating for further information.

ALICE MCNEAL, M.D.

**A Simplified Physiology of the Human Body.** BY DERYCK TAVERNER, M.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., Reader in Medicine, University of Leeds, Honorary Consulting Physician to the United Leeds Hospital and the Leeds Regional Hospitals Board. Illustrations

tions by H. Grayshon Lumby, M.S.I.A. Cloth. \$3.50. Pp. 236, with 61 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1961.

This book was written for nurses, physiotherapists and medical technicians and contains a great deal of information which is presented in a clear, concise and simplified manner. It can be well recommended for the purpose for which it is intended.

H. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

**Drugs of Choice 1962-1963.** EDITED BY WALTER MODELL, M.D., Director Clinical Pharmacology and Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Cornell University Medical College. Cloth. \$14.50. Pp. 941. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Missouri, 1962.

The appearance of this third biennial volume of one of the most useful books for the medical profession should be welcomed by the general practitioner and members of every field of specialization. As the editor so aptly states in the preface, "The warm reception given the previous editions of 'Drugs of Choice' has proved that members of the medical profession recognize the present urgent need for authoritative and unbiased information on the choice of a particular drug for a particular clinical situation. This has been most gratifying to the contributors, who give their time to make an up-to-date book of this type possible. . . ."

"Trial has shown that the two-year interval between revisions is a satisfactory one. In order to provide fresh insights and a forum for different points of view, it was originally planned to change the authorship of a few chapters, especially those on controversial issues, in each edition; consequently, there are four chapters by new authors: Antidiabetic Agents, Drugs in Arterial Hypotension and Shock, Anticonvulsants, and Antiemetic Agents."

Other chapters have been revised slightly or almost entirely rewritten. A Drug Directory heading each chapter lists pages where agents are discussed. A 116-page Drug Index gives useful information on synonyms, manufacturer, route of administration, dosage forms, etc., for both drugs discussed in the text and others not considered drugs of choice. Four

well-known anesthesiologists made commendable contributions to this edition, *i.e.*, John J. Bonica, Joseph F. Artusio, Jr., J. Weldon Belleville and Leroy D. Vandam.

Anyone actively engaged in medical practice would be aided materially by consulting this text. Possession of it is strongly recommended.

O. SIDNEY ORTH, M.D.

**Trauma.** Volume 3, Number 3, October, 1961. Editor-in-Chief, Marshall Houts, LL.B. Executive Editor (Medical), Edward R. Pinckney, M.D. Contributing authors: Hermann Pinkus, M.D., Sidney Olanovsky, M.D., and James F. Glenn, M.D. Cloth. Pp. 116, with 54 figures. Matthew Bender & Co., Inc., 255 Orange Street, Albany 1, New York.

This excellent publication appears every two months and is intended to be used as a ready reference work for lawyers facing medical problems in injury cases. It aims to increase the lawyer's knowledge of medical phenomena in cases of injury and is presented in such an easy-to-read manner that others who are not members of the legal profession will find it thoroughly absorbing and stimulating.

This issue is concerned with two subjects: contact dermatitis and trauma to the kidney. On the former, one chapter is devoted to anatomy and physiology of the skin and another to contact dermatitis. These are followed by an engrossing discussion on presenting medical evidence in contact dermatitis. Concerning trauma to the kidney, a new classification of renal injury is presented on a radiographic basis according to severity. The contributing author grades damage to the kidney following injury from I to IV depending on the roentgenographic findings.

A glaring error in the book is the location of the popliteal space on the arm instead of the posterior aspect of the knee.

This issue is richly endowed with illustrative case histories which serve to emphasize points brought out by contributing authors. The actual court tort cases also are most illuminating. All doctors will want to read this publication. To all lawyers engaged in personal injury cases, it is a must.

FRANK M. GREM, M.D.