The Anesthesiologist's Bookshelf

Edited by HUBERTA M. LIVINGSTONE, M.D.

Surgery. A Concise Guide to Clinical Practice. EDITED BY GEORGE L. NARDI, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, AND GEORGE D. ZUIDEMA, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan Medical School. By 23 Authors. Foreword by Edward D. Churchill, M.D. Paper. $8.50, Cloth. $12.00. Pp. 1034, with illustrations. Little, Brown & Company, Boston. Published in Great Britain by J. & A. Churchill Ltd., London, 1961.

This student's text includes material on many of the surgical specialties and related fields. Most of the contributors are the younger teachers of surgery at Harvard and University of Michigan Medical Schools.

Chapters are devoted, not only to general surgical topics, but also to psychological and legal aspects of surgery, anesthesia, radioactive isotopes, radiology, chemotherapy, diets, and laboratory information.

The chapter of 27 pages on anesthesia by Henrik H. Bendixen includes a remarkable amount of information: resuscitation, airway obstruction, intubation, artificial respiration, oxygen therapy, and ventilators. Details regarding drugs and techniques for regional and general anesthesia are given. Finally, complications and precautions are discussed, and directions are given for the care of patients in respirators and with tracheostomies.

Most of the chapters are in outline form. There are 130 simple black and white diagrams of remarkable clarity. The paper and printing are inexpensive but good. This book is available in a paperback edition, and is recommended for medical students and young house physicians.

JAY JACOBY, M.D.

Religious Aspects of Hypnosis. BY WILLIAM J. BRYAN, JR., M.D., Fellow, Past President and Executive Director, The American Institute of Hypnosis, Los Angeles. With Forewords by S. J. Van Pelt, M.B., B.S., President of the British Society of Medical Hypnotists, London, and Rev. H. R. Burnell, Pastor, First Foursquare Church, Compton, California. Cloth. Pp. 77. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1962.

This small monograph presents interesting material concerning hypnosis and its use in medical practice. Because it stresses psychological aspects of hypnosis, it is probably of more value to hypnoanalysts than to anesthesiologists.

The book consists of discussion of close relations between hypnosis and religion, how religion uses hypnosis to achieve its purposes, and the way hypnotists may utilize religious principles in psychoanalysis.

The author begins with detailed definititions of both religion and hypnosis which need be accepted only as a basis for development of the book. Using a profusion of Biblical quotations, he attempts to show the use of hypnotic technique in various aspects of religious practice and to prove that prayer is a form of hypnosis. Views held by various faiths on the practice of hypnosis are presented in detail, with the majority approving its use for diagnosis and treatment.

Evidence is cited to prove a natural connection of religion and hypnosis, with a chapter devoted to examples of how Jesus used hypnosis to heal. The author delves deeper into the religious aspect in attempting to explain how prayer "alters the state of consciousness." After presenting case reports on the use of religious principles in hypnoanalysis, the book concludes with views on hypnosis in the search and proof of God.

This publication is thought provoking and controversial. Although one cannot agree with the author on many points, his views are presented logically and understandably. This book provides fruitful reading, even though it adds little to scientific utilization of hypnosis. This is the first in a series of books on hypnosis which will cover every phase of its medical use. Dr. Bryan's extensive knowledge of hypnosis makes one anticipate his future publications.

DORIS C. GROSSKREUTZ, M.D.

Downloaded from http://asa2.silverchair.com/anesthesiology/article-pdf/23/6/883/614523/0000542-196211000-00024.pdf by guest on 18 April 2024