principles of blood coagulation and continuing to a brief description of various disorders of coagulation. There is also a discussion of the uses and nature of anticoagulants, with special emphasis given to problems of blood coagulation in the newborn, problems due to fibrinolysis, massive transfusion, and changes related to pregnancy.

I believe that anesthesiologists come in immediate contact with coagulation difficulties frequently enough to make this type of information valuable to us. A more detailed book would perhaps be unnecessarily complex.

WILLIAM K. HAMILTON, M.D.

Electrolytes and Cardiovascular Diseases. VOL. 1. *Fundamental Aspects.* VOL. 2. *Clinical Aspects.* EDITED BY EÖRS BAJUSZ, University of Montreal, Canada. Cloth. $16.00 (Vol. 2.) Pp. 412 in Vol. 1, published in 1965; 442 in Vol. 2, published in 1966. Illustrated. The Williams & Wilkins Co., Baltimore.

This two-volume work is organized and edited by Eörs Bajusz, who is a student of myocardial physiology. It is a collection of over 40 papers largely on the subject of the myocardium in disease states. The papers in volume 1 report electrolyte changes and various pathologic conditions in animals, while volume 2 is a study of changes as measured in man. The editor's stated purpose in compiling this symposium is to review the current status of knowledge in the field of electrolyte metabolism, including the relations of anion-cation interactions to the normal functions of heart and blood vessels. He has succeeded in bringing together a wealth of data and concepts concerning membrane transport, electrolyte shifts (particularly related to potassium), and nutritional factors in various states of myocardial health and disease. These volumes will be of use to individuals in reviewing the literature on myocardial metabolism, and to those who wish to study myocardial function and disease. While they provide data of importance, the individual review articles do not lend themselves to easy, rapid study by the clinician.

D. W. EASTWOOD, M.D.

The Veins. Normal and Abnormal Function. BY J. EDWIN WOOD, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Professor of Physiology, and Virginia Heart Association Research Professor of Cardiology, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville. Cloth. $10.00. Pp. 224, with 73 illustrations. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1965.

The small monograph collates the mass of data on the venous system that has been accumulating during recent years, and relates this knowledge to human physiology and disease. A great deal of this information has been derived from studies employing the plethysmograph, and the book is mainly concerned with this instrument and its contributions to our understanding of the functions of the veins.

The plethysmograph, a method of physiological measurement which is almost three centuries old, is a very imperfect tool, but it remains the chief source of knowledge about the venous system. Much of the first section of the book, therefore, which deals with the methods available for study of the veins, is given over to descriptions of the plethysmograph in its various forms and the applications of these in investigative situations. The second part of the book considers the role of the veins as capacitance vessels with vasomotor tone which responds to neural and humoral stimuli induced by temperature, mental activity, posture, respiration, exercise, and a variety of drugs. The final section of the book is devoted to the actions of the veins in various clinical states, including congestive heart failure, hypertension, anemia, shock, arterial hypertension, phlebitis, pregnancy, and during therapy with oral contraceptives.

This is a readable and adequate summary of what is known at present about the role that the venous system plays in the overall control of the circulation and the useful distribution of the blood under a variety of circumstances in health and disease. The anesthesiologist who does not yet appreciate these concepts will find here a ready review of the fundamental facts.

DAVID M. LITTLE, JR., M.D.

Cardiac Evaluation in Normal Infants. BY ROBERT F. ZIEGLER, M.D., Physician-in-Charge, Division of Pediatric Cardiology, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. Cloth. $12.75. Pp. 170, with 29 illustrations. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1965.

The author is one of the leading authorities on cardiology of the newborn and has written other books on this topic. The purpose of this text is to provide a practical clinical guide in the detection of abnormal cardiac conditions. Fetal circulation and its transitional changes that occur from fetal to neonatal life are reviewed. In the neonate, the author discusses heart rate, pulmonary and systemic circulation, blood pressure, heart size and heart murmurs and their evaluation, and cyanosis. The book is well illustrated with electrocardiograms and chest films and there is an extensive bibliography. This is a worthwhile book for those who deal with the newborn.

M. DIGBY LEIGH, M.D.