who does local anesthetic procedures either occasionally or frequently will find excellent information and illustrations in this volume. In this section, the author also describes tests for presence of sympathetic function.

A world of information about the lungs, heart, and autonomic system is available in the section on "Physiological Considerations." A good bit of anatomy is also involved. The alterations in the systems most vitally affected by anesthesia are considered adequately and expounded admirably with graphs and illustrations.

"Pharmacological Considerations" is another section that has been written very practically. Theories of narcosis are reviewed, premedicant drugs described, and individual anesthetic agents discussed.

Even though there are fairly numerous typographical errors, it is rare that a book which contains so much material and is so succinctly written is so easily readable. Perhaps, as in "Life," the abundance of illustrations is a large factor, but whatever the causes, anyone with an interest in anesthesiology, from intern to expert, will enjoy reading these pages.

ROBERT W. VIRTUE, M.D.

High-altitude Diseases: Mechanism and Management. By CARLOS M. MONGE, AND CARLOS C. MONGE. Pp. 97, 23 illustrations. Cloth. $5.75. Chas. C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1966.

This monograph is a father-son presentation. Both authors are well-know investigators of the physiology of high altitudes and one may accept their expertise. Carlos M. Monge, the senior author, is known for his description of chronic mountain sickness or seroche. In this volume, the authors contrast findings in the high-altitude residents with those in newcomers from sea level. In addition to describing the adaptation of the resident native population and the acclimatization and failure of certain adjustments of the sea-level arrivals, the authors emphasize the importance of climatic and environmental conditions. The combination of the cold and the low oxygen tensions contribute to the production of disease and the difficulties of acclimatization of persons from lower altitudes.

One wishes that the authors had given more detailed and factual accounts of the physiology of respiration and circulation at high altitudes, especially since they have a long and wide experience of the subject. The major portion of their monograph describes results of studies pertaining to high-altitude residency, but few detailed accounts and solid data are presented. The authors however, do, refer to the many reports available, and their bibliography is good: 193 references are cited.

A short account of the historical implications of high altitude as it affected the policies of the Incas and Spaniards is presented. This interesting material resembles more recent situations in history in which disease has determined the outcome of war. In this account the authors also describe how the infertility of the Spaniards and of the livestock at high altitudes affected the plans of the leaders.

Doctors K. Hellriegel and V. Macagno contributed a chapter on anesthesia and surgery at high altitudes. Most surgery, even thoracic surgery, can be undertaken as well at high altitudes as at sea level, if certain precautions in preoperative and operative management of the patient are taken.

The authors stress a high incidence of pneumoconiois among the native population, and describe conditions which must be distinguished from chronic mountain sickness.

This monograph is another useful contribution to the knowledge of high-altitude diseases. It provides worthwhile descriptions and useful references to studies of high altitude. The monograph is mainly descriptive. For more objective information, the references in the original will have to be read.

HAROLD A. LYONS, M.D

Cardiopulmonary Function Tests In Clinical Medicine. By THOMAS P. K. LIM, M.D., PH.D. Pp. 171, 44 figures. Cloth. $9.50. Chas. C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1966.

In the preface the author announces the form of his writing and his objective—". . . this monograph is written as a primer for those beginning to learn the ABC's of pulmonary and cardiac function tests." Pulmonary function testing and respiratory physiology, cardiac catheterization techniques, phonocardiography and vectorcardiography are described in this monograph. Each topic is covered with clarity and brevity. Interspersed in the discussion are brief references to the significance of findings to disease and abnormalities. These references are almost asides. The text is readable and the figures are good. The content is simple and adheres to the ABC format. A real lack of depth is apparent, however, and the presentation adds little to that which may be found in other monographs dealing with the same subjects. The dearth of detailed and critical discussion suggests a news item of a daily paper. The assembly of the four separate topics into one volume would seem attractive, but each topic is so important in its own right and so cursorily handled that it is apparent it was an unwise attempt. As an example, in the chapter dealing with vectorcardiography, the author acclaims its worth and usefulness, and then concludes with statements that the technique is not yet standardized nor without certain limitations and shortcomings.

This book may be recommended to an uncritical reader, who wants a quick survey and a nodding acquaintance with some of the present-day techniques used for the study of cardiopulmonary diseases.

HAROLD A. LYONS, M.D.