

well as providing guidelines and reference material to initiate approximate biofeedback applications in his or her practice.

JEFFREY C. STEGER, Ph.D.
*Director, Biofeedback Clinic RJ-30
University of Washington School of Medicine
Seattle, Washington 98195*

Advances in Shock Research. Volume 1. By A. M. LEFER, T. M. SABA, and L. M. MELA. New York, Alan R. Liss, 1979. Pages: 285. Price: \$30.00.

Advances in Shock Research. Volume 2. By W. SCHUMER, J. J. SPITZER, and B. E. MARSHALL. New York, Alan R. Liss, 1979. Pages: 298. Price: \$30.00.

This two-volume set presents a selected group of papers presented at the First Annual Conference on Shock, June 1978. How the presentations at the conference were solicited and screened or who selected which papers for presentation is not clear. Presumably the distinguished editors, Drs. Lefer, Saba, and Mela (volume 1), and Drs. Schumer, Spitzer, and Marshall (volume 2) were the catalysts. In all such publications, the advantage is compilation between sets of hard covers, but the disadvantage of less refereeing. The other advantage of developing a total picture within each frame is missing from the present series. Many times, pertinent discussion of formal discourses recorded on the floor helps but, alas, this is also absent from the volumes.

Volume 1 starts with a historical and personal review of cardiovascular function in circulatory shock by Dr. Richard Lilliehei, and then the papers are grouped in subsections. Fourteen chapters on hypovolemic shock include the only chapter, "Enflurane Alters the Response to Hemorrhage" contributed by an anesthesiologist, D. Longnecker. The other two major sections are titled "Hypoxia and Ischemia and Cardiogenic and Splanchnic Ischemic Shock." A final unrelated, but interesting, review of support in trauma research is presented by Emilie Black, NIH, whose strong and gracious efforts we all acknowledge.

Volume 2 continues in the same format to encompass "the newer concepts of pathophysiology and treatment of endotoxemia, sepsis, and trauma shock." "Recent" would have been a better word than "newer," for there is little new.

The introduction by H. B. Stoner, Medical Research Council Trauma Unit, Manchester, U. K., is delightfully intriguing and to the point. It is, perhaps, the best section and is certainly the one most worth reading. He writes, "I go to Physiological Congresses and I am always disturbed to find that the "shock" sessions are the worst. Indeed the work reported is often so bad that it is hardly worth attending. So much of the work merits the contempt it attracts from more "regular scientists."

I believe Dr. Stoner's evaluation of previous "shock" sessions was not altered by the papers published from this session. These were no major breakthroughs in the mechanism, progression, or therapeutic implications. The methods of research were refined, but the "shock models," except for one using a pony, were routine in their conception and application. The sections never become a composite but remain, as published, a jigsaw puzzle with more missing pieces than interlocking segments.

Only one group from our discipline contributes to each volume. Whether this reflects a lack of excitement or a scarcity of representation is not evident, although I suspect the former. That most anesthesiologists are no longer interested in shock is evident from our own literature as well. The volumes are poorly proofread,

with many typographical mistakes, errors in reference numbering, and other minor annoyances.

In summary, I believe the books should be borrowed from a library for reading by those specifically interested in the state of research in shock as represented at the meeting.

LOUIS R. ORKIN, M.D.
*Department of Anesthesiology
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
of Yeshiva University
1300 Morris Park Avenue
Bronx, New York 10461*

Review of Medical Physiology. Ninth edition. By WILLIAM F. GANONG. Los Altos, California, Lange Medical Publications, 1979. Pages: 618. Price: \$14.00.

Dr. Ganong has adequately fulfilled his intentions of providing a concise summary of mammalian and, particularly, of human physiology that medical students and others can supplement with readings in current texts, monographs, and reviews. The text has withstood the test of time and is now in its ninth edition with translations into 12 languages.

A great value of the book is the relative ease with which a reader can find any particular area of interest. Few words are wasted, yet explanations are remarkably complete with ample well-arranged illustrations, figures and tables, and a list of pertinent references after each section. Printed in easy-to-read type, this text continues to be an up-to-date, concise, convenient, and admirably clear reference manual.

JOHN C. HARGROVE, M.D.
*Department of Anesthesiology, RN-10
University of Washington School of Medicine
Seattle, Washington 98195*

Mechanisms of Airways Obstruction in Human Respiratory Disease. [Proceedings of the International Symposium, South Africa, 1978.] By M. A. DEKOCK, J. A. NADEL and C. M. LEWIS. Rotterdam, A. A. Balkema, 1979. Pages: 413. Price: 45.00.

This book is the compilation of the proceedings of the International Symposium on the Mechanisms of Airways Obstruction in Human Respiratory Disease held at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, in March 1978. The conference took place under the sponsorship of the South African Medical Research Council, and the book is published by that organization. Of a total of 40 participants, 24 were overseas visitors and constituted an impressive panel of internationally recognized clinical and basic researchers in the area of obstructive pulmonary disease.

The stated aim of the Symposium and publication is to create an overview of current medical knowledge and research interests among a multidisciplinary group of investigators working in the many areas of airway obstruction. In the opening address, the divergent pathways of current investigation and the heterogeneous nature of the etiologies and pathophysiologies is emphasized; therefore, it is no surprise that the book falls short of its objective of being a comprehensive review of current knowledge.

The book consists of 29 30-minute papers on a wide range of subjects involving the anatomy, pathophysiology, pharmacology, epidemiology, and clinical features of emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and asthma. Each is well written and well referenced, and the interspersing of eight discussion sessions lends some degree