BOOK REVIEWS

PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA. William M. Manger and Ray W. Gifford. New York, Springer-Verlag Inc., 1978. Price \$49.80.

THERE CAN be no doubt that this monograph is the product of a meticulous analysis of the whole of the subject of pheochromocytoma.

Within the framework of the subject of hypertension, all the related parameters from the basic physiology and biochemistry to the post-operative course are fully described. Detailed accounts of the symptoms, signs, diagnosis and differential diagnosis, investigation, identification and localization of these tumours are presented. The sections on pharmacological and biochemical tests and the radiological techniques are particularly well done. There are good accounts of the preoperative preparation and the anaesthetic and surgical problems involved in the resection of these tumours.

The style of presentation is such that one's attention is captivated at the beginning and held from chapter to chapter, as the book progresses in its orderly and logical sequence.

The authors are to be commended for their work.

J.H. KERR

SPECIALTY BOARD REVIEW - ANESTHESIOLOGY. Thomas P. Beach. New York, Arco Medical Review Series, 1978. Price \$14.00.

THE AIM of this book is to prepare candidates for the American Board Certification in Anesthesiology. To this end it serves its purpose very well but of more importance is the chance it offers for a thorough review of the field by the established practitioner. There are 352 references, mainly from the current literature, and every question has its reference source listed. As always in such books the occasional question is phrased ambiguously and there is an occasional answer with which one might disagree. This should send one back to the reference sources and, if it achieves this goal, then the book has succeeded admirably.

The price is \$14.00 and I am unable to find better value for money in the anaesthetic literature. Recommended reading for practitioners at all levels of training.

H. MARRYATT

THE CAVAL CATHETER. C. Burri and F.W. Ahnefeld, with collaboration of K.H. Altemeyer, B. Gorgass, O. Haferkamp, D. Heitmann, G. Krischak, P. Lintner, A. Ott, H.H. Passler, E. Plank, D. Spilker, and W. Stotz. Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York, 1978.

THIS BOOKLET reviews the indications, technique and complications of vena caval catheterization. The section on complications is an excellent analysis of the literature on the incidence, prevention and treatment of the sequelae of central venous catheterization. With careful editing and a better translation from the German, the remainder of the book would be more concise and lucid. There are 496 references.

A. GELB

TRACHEOSTOMY AND ARTIFICIAL VENTILATION IN THE TREATMENT OF RESPIRATORY FAILURE. Stanley A. Feldman and Brian E. Crawley. London, Edward Arnold Ltd., Third Edition, 1977.

THIS CLEAR, concise but didactic book is ideal reading for the novice entering the field of respiratory care, be he medical student or practitioner. The book covers a wider subject matter than is suggested by the title. In addition to chapters on the indications for, physiological effects and management of tracheostomy and ventilation, there are chapters on monitoring, parenteral nutrition, infection control and physiotherapy. Most of the chapters have adequate references from the current literature to guide one further into the area covered in that section.

A.W. GELB

INTRODUCTION TO THE PRACTICE OF ANESTHESIA (second edition) 1978. Monte Lichtiger, M.D. and Frank Moya, M.D., Hagerstown, Md., Harper & Row Inc. Price \$27.50.

THE AUTHORS of this text are well known to the anaesthesia community, and have brought together their own experience, with that of 39 contributors, in their individual areas of competence.

The second edition incorporates extensive revision of the first issued in 1974, with additional sections on CPR, uptake and distribution, conscious sedation, cardiopulmonary bypass, and respiratory therapy. Unusual chapters in a basic text are that on malpractice by the late Dr. J.G. Converse, and the section on the economics of practice and the assessment of work opportunities by Dr. Moya.

As one would expect, the subject of each chapter is developed by each author in his own way, and the use of illustrations thus varies widely. Those on Local Anesthesia (Oyama & Cohen) and Anesthesia Machines (Linmer) incorporate good art-work. An excellent account of the rationale of anaesthesia charting is provided by Gion. The book is organized in a time sequence basis, with 5 sections on the pharmacologic basis of anaesthesia, principles and techniques of clinical anaesthesia, anaesthesia management, complications of anaesthesia and surgery, and special topics. The multi-author approach is well exemplified in the depth to which each contributor has developed his theme in the confines of a fully-inclusive introductory text. The authors have achieved their purpose admirably, and this book should become a standard recommendation for residents, as well as teachers.

A.J. DUNN

REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA IN OBSTETRICS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CARTICAIN. Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine Vol. 113. L. Beck, K. Strasser and M. Zindler, Editors. Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer-Verlag, 1978. Soft Cover: Price DM 32. - U.S. \$16.00.

THE SYMPOSIUM on which this volume is based deals with the role of the new local anaesthetic "Carticain" in obstetrical conduction anaesthesia. In two papers the first part looks at the pharmacokinetics of this and other local anaesthetics with special reference to passage across the placenta and cardiovascular effects. The second part comprises four papers and is

devoted to the effects on foetus and newborn, and reports on experiences with Carticain in paracervical, pudendal and peridural block, including maternal and foetal plasma levels of the anaesthetic. The final five papers discuss obstetrical conduction anaesthesia in more general terms.

The English Summary of this German language volume is interesting in that it highlights some of the points made in the body of the book, but apart from the information one gleans of the properties of a new local anaesthetic, it contains little that is new to the well-informed specialist in anaesthesia.

GORDON M. WYANT

ANAESTHESIA AND PATIENT CARE (ANAESTHESIE UND ARZTLICHE SORGFALTSPFLICHT). H.W. Opderbecke, Anaesthesiology and Resuscitation Vol. 100, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer-Verlag, 1978. Price DM 36. - U.S. \$18.00.

IT IS DIFFICULT to provide a precise and at the same time concise translation into English of the German title of this volume. Suffice it to say that it deals with the role, duty, and responsibilities of the anaesthetist. It discusses the relationship between surgeon and anaesthetist, the delegation of tasks to nursing personnel, preoperative and postoperative duties and those in the recovery room, patient consent, blood transfusions, physical injury, explosions, electrical accidents, and other similar topics. The reasons which prompted this book by the General Secretary of the German Society for Anaesthesia and Intensive Medicine are strangely familiar to the North American reader. They arise from the author's concern at the lack of guidelines for the anaesthetist to help him in the performance of his duties in the light of changing physician-patient relationships.

Except for a general summary, the body of this work is written entirely in German.

GORDON M. WYANT