

of ganglion blockade in Internal Medicine and Anaesthesiology. Of particular value for anyone beginning research in this area is a thorough and critical assessment by Gyermek of "Methods for the Examination of Ganglion-blocking Activity". For those interested in the action and mechanism of action of anaesthetics, the volatile agents, barbiturates, other depressants and neuroleptics are included along with psychoactive drugs in the section on CNS acting agents. Unfortunately, the final chapter on ganglion blockade in Anaesthesiology contrasts markedly with the rest of the book, and appears to be misplaced in context. It is limited almost exclusively to a description of clinical usage, which makes no mention of more recent techniques of controlled hypotension. There is little reference to either clinical or laboratory experimental studies, the exception being a few pages on extracorporeal circulation; and an unusually small number of references is provided, the most recent being from 1974.

Although there appears to have been considerable lag between the preparation of manuscripts and publication, this book serves its function well by furnishing a previously much-needed extensive discussion and reference source for both experienced and new investigators in the field. Even though much of the description relates to basic science, the many summaries and clinical orientation and implications of several parts (notably chapters 6-8, 11, and 13-15) provide a balance and ensure both appeal and usefulness for a variety of specialized readers.

M.E. MORRIS

DISASTER MEDICINE, Vol. 1. Types and Events of Disasters. Organization in Various Disaster Situations. Editors: R. FREY AND P. SAFAR. Pp. 355, figs. 97, soft cover. Berlin-Heidelberg-New York. Springer-Verlag, 1980. ISBN 0-387-09043-6. Price: U.S. \$46.50.

THIS BOOK, the first in a new Series on "Disaster Medicine", represents Part I of the Proceedings of the International Congress on Disaster Medicine, held in Mainz, Federal Republic of Germany in 1977. One hundred and five authors are listed as responsible for 101 contributions to this very comprehensive volume. Its scope is wide and it is not possible to give more than a broad outline of its contents by citing the headings of the five sections comprising it. They are: "Types, Events and Definition of Disasters"; "Local, Regional and National Organization in Various Disaster Situations", and "Reports on Workshops on Global, Local/Regional and Definite Care in Disaster Situations". Because of the mass of information relating to all types of disasters in peace and in war, nuclear and conventional, this book is a must for all who are potentially involved in organizing or rendering care in disaster situations, whatever their likely role, and it should be available to all E.M.O. Officers and local leaders as a reference manual. One looks forward to Part 2 of the reports from the Congress which is scheduled to deal with "Resuscitation and Life Support" and "Relief of Pain and Suffering".

GORDON M. WYANT

BOOKS RECEIVED

PREPARATION FOR ANAESTHESIA. A.J. STEVENS. Tunbridge Wells, Pitman Medical Ltd., 1980. Price: \$22.50.

SEDATION LOCAL AND GENERAL ANAESTHESIA IN DENTISTRY. N.B. JORGENSEN AND J. HAYDEN, JR. Toronto, The Macmillan Co. of Canada, 3rd edition, 1980. Price \$34.50.

EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO ANESTHESIA AND SURGERY. FRANK GUERRA AND J. ANTONIO ALDRETE. New York, Grune & Stratton Inc., 1980. Price: U.S. \$23.50.

SYSTOLIC TIME INTERVALS. W.F. LIST, J.S. GRAVENSTEIN AND D.H. SPODICK. New York, Springer-Verlag Inc., 1980. Price: U.S. \$31.90.