

## BOOK REVIEWS

**PHYSICS FOR THE ANAESTHETIST.** By Sir ROBERT MACINTOSH, WILLIAM W. MUSHIN, and H. G EPSTEIN. Second edition. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas [Toronto: The Ryerson Press]. 1958. Pp. 443. \$18.50.

THE FIRST EDITION of this work, published in 1947, filled a great need in the anaesthetic literature, and after being out of print for five years has become almost a collector's item. This second edition has been eagerly awaited by practising anaesthetists, teachers, and students alike.

This textbook has grown from 235 pages in the first edition to 443 in the new edition. The major part of this expansion results from the addition of a very welcome chapter on "Pressure Reducing Valves," and four excellent chapters on "Explosions." The authors make an admirable job of the task of applying the principles of elementary physics to the problems of anaesthesia. The book is lavishly illustrated, and undoubtedly may be fully understood even by those who have long ago forgotten what they learned of Physical Science during earlier training.

R.A.G.

**BLOOD VOLUME DETERMINATIONS WITH RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES AND INDEX OF CARDIAC CLEARANCE.** Washington: United States Atomic Energy Commission AECU-3614. March 1958. \$1.00.

THE USE of radioactive isotopes as a tool in the investigation of problems of the circulation is a matter of interest to many medical research workers. This publication is based on investigation in the Department of Anesthesiology Research Laboratory at the District of Columbia General Hospital, Washington, D.C., and discusses the principles and techniques involved in the employment of isotopes in measurements of blood volume and index of cardiac clearance. It may be obtained from the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

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